

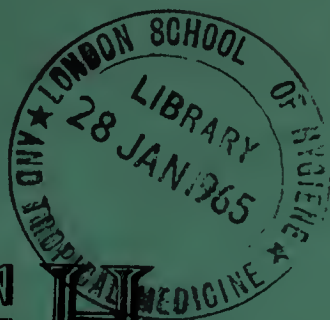
424 (1)

Handwritten text

PH 2



THE
HEALTH
OF
SLOUGH



1962

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
'GLENHARTIE',
15, BATH ROAD,
SLOUGH.

*To the Worshipful the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors
of the Borough of Slough.*

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you the Annual Report on the Health of the Borough of Slough for the year 1962; this is the 14th report which I have presented since I came here in 1950.

The population continued, as usual, to increase and the number of births again created a record. When I made my first report the population was 66 thousand but within the short space of twelve years no less than sixteen thousand more people live in the town - an increase of nearly a quarter.

Generally speaking, the health of the community was satisfactory and the peri-natal mortality rate (babies either stillborn or dying within a week of birth) was once more reduced and to a new low level.

Epidemiologically speaking the most interesting issue during the year was Smallpox. As a number of cases occurred in various towns throughout the country a very great demand for vaccination arose and the medical services of the town were hard-pressed, during the early months of the year, to fulfil this demand. Smallpox can be controlled by vaccination and recent vaccination will prevent this disease in an individual. The best age for vaccination is between one and two years as the least reaction occurs then but severe local reactions and illness are much more likely should primary vaccination be deferred until later in life. Many primary vaccinations were performed in 1962 because people were travelling to infected areas or wished to proceed abroad either on business or for pleasure and needed valid International Certificates of Vaccination; many others, however, requested or even demanded vaccination in order to prevent them from contracting a disease which they feared but from which there was virtually no risk in this neighbourhood;

some undoubtedly suffered unnecessary pain or illness. Because it was considered that no additional public health risk exist here no additional clinics were opened, although, of course, arrangements were made behind the scenes for such facilities to be available, immediately, should they have been necessary.

The entry of the Slough Borough Council into the sphere of Home Safety provided a major development in the health services during the year and it is to be hoped that the new Home Safety Council will play an ever-increasing share in reducing the number of home accidents. Closely allied to this was the commencement of classes to demonstrate the new method of life saving 'Mouth to Mouth' or 'Mouth to Nose' Resuscitation or 'The Kiss of Life'. These classes will continue so that the greatest number of people will be able to save life should they ever be called upon to do so.

The work of the Public Health Inspectors continued to increase and the points which have merited particular reference in the Chief Public Health Inspector's section of the Report include houses in multiple occupation, the gypsy problem, the future of animal slaughtering in the town, the control of noise and the extension of smoke control areas.

As will be seen from the front pages of this report Alderman F.S.G. Room, who was Chairman of the Health and Sanitation Committee for many years, was elected Mayor for the Municipal Year 1962-1963. Alderman N.M. Eschle became the new Chairman. I would like to take this opportunity of thanking Alderman Room for the great assistance he gave to the Department during his years of Chairmanship and also to thank his successor for the continuation of that support.

Finally I would like to express my appreciation to all members of the staff for their continued excellent work throughout the year and particularly for the way in which they dealt with the additional strains and stresses thrust upon them early in the year when the vaccination demand was at its peak.

I remain, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

MACDONALD A. CHARRETT,
Medical Officer of Health.

JULY 1963

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1962

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS

GENERAL STATISTICS

area	6,202 acres
Population: Registrar General's Estimate for mid-1962	82,700
Number of dwelling-houses, including flats at 1st April, 1963	23,961
Rateable value as at 31st March, 1963 ...	£1,978,448
Rateable value as at 1st April, 1963 ...	£7,047,193
Estimated Product of Penny Rate 1963/64 ...	£29,000

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1962

Live Births:					<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	804	756	1,560
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	77	55	132
Total					881	811	1,692
Crude Birth Rate (per 1,000 population)					-	-	20.5
Corrected Birth Rate (allowing for sex and age of the population)					-	-	18.25
(Comparability factor 0.89)					-	-	18.0
National Birth Rate					-	-	1.01:1
Ratio of local Birth Rate to National Rate					-	-	7.89%
Illegitimate live births were 7.89% of total live births					-	-	
Still Births:					<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	18	10	28
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	1	-	1
Total					19	10	29
Total of live and still births					-	-	1,721
Still birth rate per 1,000 total births					-	-	16.8
Still birth rate per 1,000 population					-	-	0.35
National still birth rate per 1,000 total births					-	-	18.1
Deaths:					<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
					381	276	657
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 population					-	-	7.94
Corrected Death Rate (allowing for sex and age of the population)					-	-	11.06
(Comparability figure 1.40)					-	-	11.9
National Death Rate per 1,000 population					-	-	0.92:1
Ratio of Local Death Rate to National Rate					-	-	

Maternal Deaths:

Number of women dying in, or as a
consequence of, pregnancy
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 total
live and still births

Infant Mortality: (Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age)

Deaths:					Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	16	5	
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	2		
Total					18	5	

Rate per 1,000 live births

Legitimate Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000
legitimate live births

Illegitimate Infant Mortality Rate per
1,000 illegitimate live births

National Rate per 1,000 live births

Ratio of Local Rate to National Rate

Neo-Natal Mortality: (Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age)

Deaths:					Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	8	3	
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	2		
Total					10	3	

Rate for all infants under 4 weeks of
age per 1,000 live births

Peri-Natal Mortality: (Still births and deaths of infants under 1 week of age)

					Males	Females	Total
Deaths	...	...	...	...	10	3	
Still births	...	...	...	...	19	10	
Total					29	13	

Rate per 1,000 total live and still births

Other Deaths:

				Males	Females	Total	Rate per 1,000 Population
Cancer	...	...	...	78	63	141	1.70
Pulmonary T.B.	...	...	...	2	2	4	0.04
Non-Pulmonary T.B.	...	...	...	-	-	-	-

I. VITAL STATISTICS

BIRTHS

After allowing for inward and outward transfers the Registrar General credited the town with 1,692 live births during 1962; of these 881 were male and 811 were female. This number is 95 more than in 1961 but the increase is not nearly so great as was that between 1960 and 1961 which was 171. The crude birth rate went over 20 per 1,000 population for the first time. When this rate has been multiplied by the Comparability Factor of 0.89, a calculation which allows the birth rate of Slough to be compared with other areas of the country and indeed with the country as a whole, a new figure of 18.25 is obtained. A glance at the table below will show that the corrected birth rate in Slough has risen from 12.64 in 1953 to 18.5 in 1962: in 1953 for every five children born in the country as a whole, only four were born in Slough, now slightly more than the average number are born in Slough.

Year	Corrected Birth Rate, Slough	Birth Rate England & Wales	Ratio Slough : England & Wales	
1953	12.64	15.5	0.81	: 1
1954	13.37	15.2	0.88	: 1
1955	13.35	15.0	0.89	: 1
1956	13.51	15.7	0.86	: 1
1957	14.3	16.1	0.89	: 1
1958	15.76	16.4	0.96	: 1
1959	15.74	16.5	0.95	: 1
1960	16.74	17.1	0.98	: 1
1961	17.62	17.4	1.01	: 1
1962	18.25	18.0	1.01	: 1

ILLEGITIMACY

The total number of illegitimate births during 1962 was 133, compared with 91 in 1961 and 82 in 1960. This number of 133 shows a very considerable increase over the previous year, and is in fact almost 50% higher. There were 77 male and 55 female live births; and 1 male stillbirth.

The illegitimacy rate of 77.28 per thousand total births is a very much higher rate than ever before. Looked at from another point of view, this means that about 1 in 13 of all babies born in this town during 1962 was illegitimate.

No very obvious reason for the sudden increase comes to mind except perhaps the existence of a considerable number of coloured people, most of whom have come to the town during the past few years. There is no doubt that the birth rate among these people is high and it is suspected that many of the children are officially illegitimate. This does not mean that stable unions and stable families are not being produced but the importance of the marriage ceremony or the legality of marriage in the West Indies whence a large number of these immigrants come is of considerably less importance than it is here.

1950	...	4.80
1951	...	5.46
1952	...	4.39
1953	...	6.52
1954	...	4.7
1955	...	5.24
1956	...	4.79
1957	...	4.45
1958	...	5.01
1959	...	5.90
1960	...	5.68
1961	...	5.69
1962	...	7.73

STILLBIRTHS

The number of stillbirths rose to 29 as compared with 17 in the previous year. Although the total number of births was much higher, the stillbirth rate at 16.8 per thousand still compares very favourably with the national rate of 18.1.

STILLBIRTH RATES - SLOUGH

1953	...	16.55
1954	...	25.0
1955	...	25.7
1956	...	25.9
1957	...	19.6
1958	...	25.2
1959	...	26.8
1960	...	12.46
1961	...	10.53
1962	...	16.8

The stillbirth rate fluctuates quite considerably and although it is always hoped that the number of stillbirths will decrease year by year it is much more important to take this figure in conjunction with the number of infant deaths. Improvements in ante-natal care, in the general well-being

the population and in medical science mean that many children who would have been stillborn are now born alive. The line between life and death at birth is in these instances a very fine one and so, in some years, a higher stillbirth rate will be found while in other years it may be lower. Children who died soon after birth in 1962 decreased in number. So far as 1962 is concerned, while regretting the fact that the number of stillbirths and the stillbirth rate were higher than they had been, we should look at this figure in conjunction with the deaths of infants in the first week of life. This will be found under the heading Peri-natal Mortality.

DEATHS

The number of deaths occurring in the town during 1962 increase by 18 to 657. The population as estimated by the Registrar General increased by some 2,200 so the crude death rate was only fractionally higher at 7.94 per thousand.

DEATH RATE - SLOUGH			
Year	Crude Death Rate	Corrected Death Rate	National Rate
1953	7.68	9.29	11.4
1954	7.60	9.35	11.3
1955	8.625	10.60	11.7
1956	8.47	11.1	11.7
1957	8.5	11.05	11.5
1958	7.74	10.53	11.7
1959	9.13	12.42	11.6
1960	8.6	11.69	11.5
1961	7.93	11.10	12.0
1962	7.94	11.06	11.9

As would be expected the crude death rate in Slough, that the number of persons per thousand population dying, is considerably less than the national rate because the population in this town is younger than the average. To find out whether the town appears to be more healthy or more long-lived than the country as a whole, we have to multiply the crude death rate by a figure which allows for the age and sex of the local population; when this is done we get the figure on the right-hand column of the table above and it will be seen that the local corrected death rate is nearly always somewhat lower than the national average. Whether these figures, which are only a little lower than the national average can be considered a matter for congratulation is perhaps controversial, but it may be some consolation to be able to say that you will probably die a

little later in Slough than you would if you lived in some mythical, average place somewhere else in the country.

CAUSE OF DEATH	1961	1962
Heart Disease	202	241
Cancer	135	141
Pneumonia and Bronchitis	58	69
Accidents, all types	33	26
Other circulatory disease	14	26

The main change occurring in the table this year is that other circulatory disease returned to sixth place once again; it replaced influenza which came in just for 1961 when there had been an epidemic of that disease. Fatal accidents were happily lower than they had been in 1961 and were in fact back again to the 1960 figure of 26. It is particularly pleasing to note that the number of road deaths had fallen from 15 in 1961 to 11 in 1962.

CAUSES OF DEATH	1961		1962	
	M	F	M	F
Tuberculosis, respiratory	5	-	2	2
Tuberculosis, other	-	1	-	-
Syphilitic disease	-	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-
Meningococcal infection	-	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-
Measles	-	-	-	-
Other infective and parasitic diseases ...	-	1	-	-
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	9	6	5	9
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...	29	5	38	9
Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	13	-	4
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	9	-	7
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	28	36	31	33
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	2	4	4	1
Diabetes	2	2	3	3
Vascular lesions of the nervous system ...	33	37	19	42
Coronary disease, angina	77	40	100	38
Hypertension with heart disease	7	7	6	5
Other heart disease	32	39	42	50
Other circulatory disease	9	5	15	11
Influenza	12	4	2	-
Pneumonia	15	12	13	11
Bronchitis	22	9	36	9
Other diseases of the respiratory system	4	2	5	-
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	4	-	2	-
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ...	-	2	1	1
Nephritis and nephrosis	-	3	1	4
Hyperplasia of prostate	6	-	5	-
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	1	-	-
Congenital malformations	6	3	5	3
Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	30	31	26	20
Motor vehicle accidents	10	5	8	3
All other accidents	10	8	7	8
Suicide	2	-	5	3
Homicide and operations of war	-	-	-	-
ALL CAUSES ...	354	285	381	276

SEX AND AGE DISTRIBUTION OF DEATHS 1962

As the population of the town shown at the last census 1961 was in excess of 75,000 the Registrar General now furnishes additional information and the following tables are compiled from this.

<u>Ages at Death in Years:</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
0 - 1	18	5	23
1 - 4	1	3	4
5 - 14	2	1	3
15 - 24	2	-	2
25 - 44	15	13	28
45 - 64	140	55	195
65 - 74	88	66	154
75 plus	115	133	248
	<u>381</u>	<u>276</u>	<u>657</u>

Of the 657 deaths, 402 (61.1%) were over the normally accepted retiring age of 65. This compares with 60.8% in 1959 and 55.7% in 1960. This number was almost annually shared between men and women; 203 men and 199 women.

The table illustrates another factor which causes much discussion from time to time - the "dangerous age" for men appears to be between 45 and 64 years - 140 men died between these ages as compared with only 55 women.

DEATHS - 1962 - AGE AND SEX CLASSIFICATION IN THE 36 CAUSES

	0 - 1		1 - 4		5 - 14		15-24		25 - 44		45 - 64		65 - 74		75 plus		TOTAL M	TOTAL F	TOTAL
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	plus				
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	1	-	-	-	2	2	4
2. Tuberculosis, other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3. Syphilitic disease	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4. Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5. Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6. Meningococcal infection	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
8. Measles	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	1	3	3	-	4	5	9	14
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	19	4	13	4	4	1	38	9	47
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	2	-	-	-	4	4
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	4	-	2	-	-	-	7	7
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	16	7	5	9	9	14	31	33	64
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	1	1	4	1	5
16. Diabetes	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	3	3	3	6
17. Vascular lesions of the nervous system	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	8	10	5	11	6	20	19	42	61
18. Coronary disease, angina	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	49	5	24	10	25	23	100	38	138
19. Hypertension with heart disease	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	2	3	3	6	5	11

CANCER OF THE LUNG AND BRONCHUS

The next story is a very distressing one - it is that of cancer of the Lung and Bronchus. Look at the sad and sorry story from 1953 to 1962 - in those ten years the number of deaths from this one cause alone had risen from 16 to 47; two and a half times as many men died from this disease in 1962 as compared with 1953 while nine times as many women died.

CANCER OF THE LUNG AND BRONCHUS - SLOUGH DEATHS		
Year	Males	Females
1953	15	1
1954	19	2
1955	20	5
1956	25	1
1957	28	5
1958	25	3
1959	35	4
1960	27	3
1961	29	5
1962	38	9

The average number of deaths from this disease during the ten years is:-

Males	26.1
Females	3.8

During 1962, a report on smoking and health was published by the Royal College of Physicians. Many facts are included in this report and a number of conclusions have been drawn from them; among them are the following:-

Benefits of smoking are almost entirely psychological and social although it may help some people to avoid obesity. There is no reason to suppose that smoking prevents neurosis.

Cigarette smoking is a cause of lung cancer and bronchitis and probably contributes towards the development of coronary heart disease and various other less common diseases; it delays healing of gastric and duodenal ulcers. The chance of dying in the next ten years of a man aged 35 who is a heavy cigarette smoker is 1 in 23, whereas the risk for a non-smoker is only 1 in 90. Only 1 in 6 of men of this age who are not smokers, but 1 in 3 of heavy smokers would die before the age of 65.

Not all this difference in expectation of life is attributable to smoking. A reduction in general air pollution should reduce the risk, but it is necessary for the health of the people in Britain that they should be warned of the dangers of smoking and steps likely to produce beneficial changes in smoking habits should be taken promptly. Since it is not yet possible to identify those individuals who will be harmed by smoking preventive measures must be generally applied. General discouragement of smoking, particularly by young people is necessary and more effort needs to be expended on discovering the most effective means of dissuading children from starting the smoking habit. Most adults have heard of the risks of cigarette smoking but remain unconvinced, but doctors who see the consequences of the habit have reduced their cigarette consumption.

So far as Slough is concerned, the actions taken include the following, which may be of interest.

Posters have been displayed: some including the burning cigarette with the sinister word "Cancer", and a coffin with the remark "The big flip-top box for the smoker", have appeared effective, while others, such as those illustrating the sheep-like attitude of persons who follow others in their habits, seemed to create little interest. Discussions have taken place with Head teachers who are trying to discover ways in which children may be warned of the dangers of cigarette smoking and attempts have been made to find suitable films or film strips which would illustrate the points clearly. There seems to be some hope that suitable material may become available fairly soon, but so far, the visual aids have been extremely disappointing. It is perhaps noteworthy in this connection that a film-strip made to present this question to Junior school children has recently been made by Miss B.R. Keene, the Area Health Education Organiser, and this is, I think, the best of its type to date.

In addition to this some enquiries regarding pupils' attitudes towards smoking were undertaken in Slough at various Secondary Schools. Because of the smallness of the sample (11 children from all types of secondary education establishments) it is not right that any hard and fast conclusion should be drawn, nor indeed that the source of the information should be made public, but in spite of this there appears to be considerable evidence that more boys smoke every day than girls. More than one third of the sample of all the boys interviewed smoked daily. There appears to be some support for the smoking habit from the parents of boys, but very little support for the habit in the case of girls. More than half the pupils interviewed had already received some knowledge of the relationship between smoking and lung cancer either from television or from the Press.

This table shows the diseases or groups of diseases which cause the greatest dislocation of family life, by killing men during their working years. Five of the usual causes are included in the table, but there were no less than five suicides in men with an average age of 50 years and this cause came into fifth place.

<i>Cause</i>	<i>No. of cases</i>	<i>Loss of working years</i>	<i>Average loss of working years per case</i>	<i>Average age at death</i>
Heart Disease	61	575	9.4	56.5
Cancer	39	378	10.6	54.3
Accidents, all types	7	163	23.3	41.7
Pneumonia and Bronchitis	15	122	8.0	57.0
Suicide	5	74	15.0	50.0
Vascular lesions of nervous system	8	59	7.3	57.6

MATERNAL MORTALITY

Although I was unhappily obliged to record the death of one mother last year due to child-birth, I am delighted to be able to say that no deaths from this cause arose in 1962. During the past twelve years there have been 13,579 births and only two mothers have died as the result of pregnancy or child-birth. Even two is obviously too many, but the fact that the number is so low reflects very great credit upon the maternity services of this area.

INFANT MORTALITY

After allowing for inward and outward transfers, the Registrar General allocated 23 deaths of children under the age of one year to this town. Eighteen of these were males and 5 were females. As this figure, which was very much lower than last year's high figure of 38, is taken in conjunction with the further increase in the number of births, the infant mortality rate fell to 13.6 per thousand live births compared with 28.9 for the year 1961 and 21.4 per thousand as the national figure for 1962. The table on the next page shows only 22 deaths and this is the number which has been given by the local Registrar. There is sometimes a discrepancy between these figures and those of the local Registrar, and although those of the Registrar General are always used for compiling statistics, details are of course only given of those cases which actually occur. Over the years, there is of course no discrepancy at all between the two.

When compiling a table which must include a number of causes of death under each specific heading, it is difficult to be certain of the significance of each figure under the subsequent columns. This year I have, therefore, extended the table to show the international classification of the deaths and have tabulated further details. In addition to this I have indicated where the various children have died, whether at home, whether in hospitals in this area, or whether at hospitals away from this area.

	UNDER 1 DAY	1 - 2 DAYS	3 - 5 DAYS	6 - 7 DAYS	TOTAL UNDER 1 WEEK	1 - 2 WEEKS	3 - 4 WEEKS	TOTAL UNDER 1 MONTH	1 - 3 MONTHS	4 - 6 MONTHS	7 - 9 MONTHS	10-12 MONTHS	TOTAL UNDER 1 YEAR
Pneumonia - 491*									3		1		4
Bronchitis - 500-502									1				1
Other diseases of lung & pleural cavity - 527									1				1
Congenital Malforma- tions - 750-759	2				2			2	1	1			4
Birth Injuries, Asphyxia & Infections of New- Born - 760-769		4	4		8			8					8
Other Diseases peculiar to Early Infancy - 770-776	1	1			2			2	1				3
Other Accidents - E910-E936									1				1
TOTAL	3	5	4		12			12	8	1	1		22
WHERE DIED													
Home									5				5
Hospitals in this Area	3	5	4		12			12	2	1	1		16
Hospital away from this Area									1				1
TOTAL	3	5	4		12			12	8	1	1		22
* The figures in the Causes of Death Column and those given after the Causes of Death in the "accompanying details" refer to the Categories given in The International Statistical Classification of Diseases, Injuries and Causes of Death.													

Pneumonia - 491*

2 Months	-	Pneumonia - Home. Coroner's post-mortem	(491)
8 Months	-	Bilateral broncho-pneumonia - Old Windsor Hospital	(491)
2 Months	-	Broncho-pneumonia - Home. Coroner's post-mortem	(491)
2 Months	-	Acute bronchiolitis - Harold Wood Hospital	(491)

Bronchitis - 500-502

1 Month	-	Acute laryngo tracheo-bronchitis - Home. Coroner's post-mortem	(501)
---------	---	--	-------

Other Diseases of Lung and Pleural Cavity - 527

2 Months	-	Acute pulmonary oedema - Home. Coroner's post-mortem	(527)
----------	---	--	-------

Congenital Malformations - 750-759

Under 24 hours	-	Anencephaly - Upton Hospital	(750)
1 Month	-	Hydrocephaly - Canadian Red Cross Hospital	(750)
5 Months	-	Congenital heart disease with hydrocephalus - Upton Hospital	(755)
Under 24 hours	-	Congenital defect of diaphragm - Old Windsor Hospital	(750)

Birth Injuries, Asphyxia and Infections of Newborn - 760-7

3 Days	-	Cerebral haemorrhage due to generalised venous congestion with partial atelectasis - Old Windsor Hospital	(760)
1 Day	-	Intracranial haemorrhage - Old Windsor Hospital - Coroner's post-mortem	(760)
1 Day	-	Sub-dural haemorrhage with prematurity - Canadian Red Cross Hospital	(765)
1 Day	-	Prematurity with generalised venous congestion and minimum aeration of lungs - Old Windsor Hospital	(760)

th Injuries, Asphyxia etc. (cont'd)

3 Days	-	Bilateral atelectasis and prematurity - Canadian Red Cross Hospital	(762.5)
4 Days	-	Atelectasis and prematurity - Canadian Red Cross Hospital	(762.5)
2 Days	-	Atelectasis and prematurity - Canadian Red Cross Hospital	(762.5)
3 Days	-	Atelectasis and prematurity - Canadian Red Cross Hospital	(762.5)

er Diseases peculiar to Early Infancy - 770-776

1 Month	-	Sub-arachnoid haemorrhage due to erythroblastosis foetalis - Old Windsor Hospital	(770.0)
Under 24 hours	-	Hydrops foetalis with prematurity - Old Windsor Hospital	(770.5)
1 Day	-	Prematurity - Old Windsor Hospital	(774)

er Accidents - E910-E936

2 Months	-	Asphyxia due to hyper-sensitivity re-action due to inhalation of regurgitated milk - Home. Coroner's Inquest Verdict - Misadventure	(E921)
----------	---	---	--------

PERI-NATAL MORTALITY

In 1962, 13 infants died within the first week of life there were 29 stillbirths, a total of 42 in 1,721 births equivalent to a loss of 24.4 children per 100 total births.

It used to be said that the infant mortality rate was, perhaps, the most useful index of the general standard of living in particular, the standard of medical services in any community but as general standards have risen, this index is perhaps rather less accurate than it was before. Better methods of ante-natal care and the treatment of babies during and after child-birth, have produced a situation where the number of children dying in the first year of life is very near to, though admittedly, not quite yet at, the irreducible minimum. Attention is now being given, more and more to the production

of live infants where infants were once still-born, and to survival of those infants; in order to effect this, there must be better ante-natal care. To explain the necessary comparison a new standard known as the peri-natal mortality rate has been developed; this combines the still-births and infant deaths during the first week of life and the rate for Slough over the past five years is given below.

1958	...	34.4
1959	...	34.0
1960	...	28.3
1961	...	26.6
1962	...	24.4

This shows a healthy and steady decline in disaster area and around the time of birth.

NEO-NATAL MORTALITY

Only 13 children died during their first four weeks of life and this represents the remarkably low neo-natal mortality rate of 7.7 per thousand live births compared with 18.15 in 1961. The National Rate in 1962 was 15.1 per thousand.

INQUESTS

30 inquests upon residents of the Borough were held in 1962 compared with 28 in the previous year. The causes of death as recorded by the Registrars of Births and Deaths following receipt of the Coroners' verdicts are set out in the following table:-

	Males	Females	Total
Natural Causes:			
Heart Failure	1	-	
Accidents:			
Falls	1	-	
Road Accidents	7	3	1
Industrial Accident	1	-	
Asphyxia	-	1	
Suicide:			
Hanging	1	1	
Coal Gas Poisoning	3	2	
Vehicle exhaust fumes	1	-	
Open Verdict:			
Railway Accident	1	-	
Drowning	-	1	
Coal Gas Poisoning	1	-	
Barbiturate poisoning	1	3	
Homicide: Stab Wound	1	-	
TOTAL ...	19	11	30

It is pleasing to note that the number of deaths from road accidents fell from 14 in 1961 to 10 in 1962, once again there was a preponderance of males in 1961, 10 males and 4 females were killed in road accidents, compared with 7 males and 3 females in the year under review. Suicides were unfortunately higher than they were in 1961. It is interesting to see that the Coroner recorded an open verdict in no less than 7 cases.

POPULATION

The Registrar General gave the population of the town as 82,700 on the 30th June, 1962, compared with 80,690 a year previously and 80,503 at the Census in 1961. The excess of births over deaths was 1,035 and this means that the additional number of people coming into the town is almost exactly the same as the natural increase. Most main building during the year occurred as private and council development at Parlaunt Park and private development at Chalvey Grove. The most interesting new feature was the building of an eleven storey block of flats by the London County Council at Langley, this is the first block of high flats in the town.

II. GENERAL HEALTH SERVICES

CLEANSING AND DISINFESTATION DISPOSAL OF REFUSE AND KITCHEN WASTE

I am indebted to the Borough Engineer for the following information on the cleansing, refuse collection and kitchen waste services.

Cleansing

Measures approved by the Council during the year will, it is hoped, lead to an improvement in the cleansing service and to a more regular and frequent sweeping of the streets and public footpaths in the town.

Further litter bins have been provided as part of a continuing programme for increasing the number of litter receptacles throughout the district.

Refuse Collection

A weekly service was provided for the traders in the town and approximately fifty separate collections were made throughout the year from householders. The Council gave authority for the container system of refuse collection to be adopted and large bins, equivalent to twelve ordinary bins, can be used by shopkeepers, schools, etc. where the accumulation of refuse is greater than average.

The special collection scheme for the removal of discarded household articles was again operated throughout the year and a considerable quantity of this type of refuse, which normally finds its way on to the highways and footpaths in the district, was removed to the Council's tip. A postcard to the Borough Engineer at the Town Hall describing the articles and stating a convenient place where they are stored is all that is required to arrange for this refuse to be removed free of charge.

The disposal of derelict cars presented further problems for the refuse collection services and arrangements were made for these vehicles to be stored at the Destruction Works at Chalvey pending investigation of ownership.

Collection of Kitchen Waste

This service decreased still further but two Contractors are still employed on a regular weekly collection from the majority of the schools and from certain householders in the town.

WATER

Slough Corporation Water Supply

Another 606 dwelling houses were connected to the main supply during the year. 96 samples were examined bacteriologically and all were satisfactory.

A new contact tank at Datchet was brought into use during the year and by this means chlorine and water were in contact with each other for periods of up to three hours instead of the water being pumped directly into the mains after being chlorinated. No suspicion has ever fallen upon the town's water supply which has only been chlorinated as a precaution, but it was felt that additional safeguards were appropriate under modern conditions.

Chemical analysis is carried out periodically and the following details are given from a typical sample.

Chemical Results in Parts Per Million)

Appearance	...	...	...	...	Clear and bright
Turbidity	...	...	...	...	Nil
Colour	...	...	...	...	Nil
Odour	...	...	...	...	Nil
pH	...	...	...	...	7.1
Free Carbon Dioxide		...	...		30
Electric Conductivity		...	...		680
Dissolved Solids dried at 180°C					470
Chlorine present as Chloride	...				39
Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate					230
Hardness: Total	...	...	...		350
Carbonate		...	...		230
Non-Carbonate	...	...			120
Nitrate Nitrogen	...	...	...		2.9
Nitrite Nitrogen	...	...	...		Absent
Ammoniacal Nitrogen		...	...		0.030
Oxygen Absorbed	...	...	...		0.20
Albuminoid Nitrogen		...	...		0.000
Residual Chlorine	...	...	...		0.07
Metals:					
Iron, Zinc, Copper and Lead	...				Absent

The Analyst's report was as follows:-

"This sample is clear and bright in appearance, neutral in re-action and free from iron and other metals. The water is very hard in character but not excessively so and it contains no excess of mineral constituents. It is of the highest standard of organic and bacterial purity.

These results are indicative of a pure and wholesome water suitable for public supply purposes.

An earlier sample taken on June 18th, revealed that the fluoride content of the Town's supply had remained constant 0.6 parts per million.

Burnham, Dorney and Hitcham Waterworks Co. Ltd.

The company supplied 16 additional houses in 1962. 41 samples were submitted for chemical and bacteriological analysis and all showed the water to be of the highest standard of organic quality and bacterial purity.

Slough Estates Limited Water Supply

No changes occurred either in the method of treatment in the extent of the Company's supply during 1962. All samples submitted for examination showed a pure and wholesome water suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.

Swimming Bath Water

There are eight pools in use in the town; two are open to the general public, but the remainder are owned privately or situated at schools. Of the 72 samples taken, only 2 proved unsatisfactory but further samples from the same bath taken shortly after proved to be completely satisfactory.

Pet Animals Act, 1951

Riding Establishments Act, 1939

Regular reports were received from the Council's veterinary surgeon upon all pet shops and riding establishments in the town. They were uniformly satisfactory.

National Assistance Act, 1948 - Section 47

I am pleased to say that it was not found necessary to take action under this section.

STAFF MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS

The great increase in the number of examinations carried out in 1962 compared with previous years is worth noting. An examination, to be comprehensive, is quite lengthy and the doctors' time taken up with this work is very considerable. If only Local Authorities would accept, without examination, officers already contributing to Local Authority or other recognised superannuation schemes much time would be saved. Proposals are, I understand, being put before the Local Authorities' Associations by the Society of Medical Officers of

Health and acceptance of these would, in my opinion, not prejudice the Local Authorities, but would save an immense amount of doctors' time.

	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962
Officers of Slough Borough Council	46	34	44	57	71
Officers of Bucks County Council	81	91	94	96	121
For admission to Teacher's Training Colleges and teaching for the first time	34	46	51	48	64
Servants entering Superannuation Scheme	27	16	28	22	19
TOTALS	188	187	217	223	275

LABORATORY

The number of examinations carried out during the year was 1,022, a slight decrease compared with the previous year. There was a considerable drop in the number of chemical milk samples but after a re-arrangement of staff, this rate of sampling is now being restored to its former level. Of the 149 samples submitted for chemical analysis, one only was unsatisfactory, being low in fat and in non-fatty solids.

The number of urine specimens examined in connection with the medical examination of staff was higher than last year. This is commented upon later in the report.

There were 62 samples of drinking water examined and 7 were unsatisfactory. 4 originated in a private well which becomes polluted from time to time and the other 3 were raw water from new boreholes at the Datchet site. Treatment of the raw water produced a satisfactory result and the supply remains highly satisfactory as will have been seen earlier from the remarks of the Public Analyst.

The two unsatisfactory samples of water from swimming baths were both from private school baths. These were isolated results and further samples proved satisfactory.

For the first time for some years all ice-cream samples examined bacteriologically were placed in Grade 1. These results may be regarded as much a compliment to the manufacturers who produce ice-cream in hygienic conditions as to the retailers who sell it, but perhaps even more important is the great increase in the proportion of wrapped ice-cream sold. The results of the chemical examinations were also satisfactory.

	Positive	Ne
Swabs for Diphtheria Bacilli	-	
Swabs for Haemolytic Streptococci	-	
Urine for routine examinations		211
Faeces for organisms of Coli/ Typhoid Group	-	
Blood Counts		47

Milk Samples:	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
(a) Phosphatase test	129	
(b) Methylene blue test	162	
(c) Turbidity test	6	
(d) Chemical tests for fats solids and water	149	

Water Samples:

(a) Drinking Water	62
(b) Swimming bath water	70

Ice-Cream:

(a) Chemical tests	52
(b) Bacteriological tests	
Grade I	52
Grade II	-
Grade III	
Grade IV	

	NUMBER OF SAMPLES TAKEN					PERCENTAGE OF SAMPLES			
	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1958	1959	1960	1961
Grade I	56	67	65	52	52	87.5	98.5	98.5	98.5
Grade II	1	1	1	1	-	1.6	1.5	1.5	1.5
Grade III	4	-	-	-	-	6.2	-	-	-
Grade IV	3	-	-	-	-	4.7	-	-	-

BOROUGH MORTUARY

The demands upon the Mortuary in 1962 again showed an increase, but this was not much greater than in 1961. However, an increase in facilities will undoubtedly shortly be needed.

1958	...	103
1959	...	115
1960	...	125
1961	...	135
1962	...	138

HOME HELP SERVICE

The following table gives details of the home help service locally during the year:-

Number of Home Helps at 31st December	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962
(a) Full-time	-	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Part-time	36	50	53	48	56	69
Number of Good Neighbours at 31st December					5	9
Number of cases who received help during	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962
(a) Acute sick	77	75	112	78	84	77
(b) Chronic sick	) 337)	110	109	106	105	122
(c) Old age	)	239	266	254	310	331
(d) Tuberculosis	7	6	3	2	2	2
(e) Maternity	69	55	63	83	66	57
	490	485	553	523	567	589

The service increases steadily each year and as might be expected the task of providing assistance for the elderly was the most difficult. The demands made upon the service were met, though it was not always possible to provide help on the scale requested by the applicant.

III. PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE

CASES NOTIFIED DURING THE YEARS 1953 - 1962

YEAR	CASES NOTIFIED AND POPULATION IN THOUSANDS										
	1962	1961	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956	1955	1954	1953	
	82	80	77	75	73	71	69	67	67	66	
Acute Poliomyelitis - Paralytic ...	2	-	-	-	-	3	5	5	1	5	
- Non-Paralytic	-	-	-	-	-	1	5	6	1	2	
Dysentery ...	9	2	8	1	14	6	-	19	3	6	
Encephalitis - Infective ...	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	
- Post-Infective	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Enteric Fever ...	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	
Erysipelas ...	5	6	9	22	12	9	18	14	15	17	
Food Poisoning ...	3	18	3	2	9	1	-	-	-	6	
Malaria (Contracted abroad)	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	
Measles ...	193	1324	244	797	442	1001	52	1185	29	526	
Meningococcal Infection ...	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	1	-	4	-	2	-	-	-	-	1	
Pneumonia ...	7	20	17	71	31	29	19	41	53	64	
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	14	12	29	41	38	25	23	21	25	24	
Scarlet Fever ...	7	18	32	68	39	36	27	11	70	215	
Whooping Cough ...	28	19	27	46	64	69	64	56	78	143	

	JAN.	FEB.	MAR.	APR.	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG.	SEPT.	OCT.	NOV.	DEC.	TOTAL
Dysentery	1	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	2	3	-	9
Erysipelas	1	-	1	-	-	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	5
Food Poisoning	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	3
Malaria (Contracted abroad) ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Measles	-	1	6	3	4	8	11	22	31	85	9	13	193
Meningococcal Infection ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Pneumonia	-	-	1	1	-	1	-	1	1	1	1	-	7
Poliomyelitis - Paralytic ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	2
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	2	1	4	-	-	-	-	3	-	2	1	14
Scarlet Fever	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	1	7
Tuberculosis:													
Pulmonary	1	10	3	1	3	1	5	4	2	1	3	4	38
Non-Pulmonary	-	-	2	1	1	1	2	1	1	-	-	-	9
Whooping Cough	-	-	1	3	1	-	5	7	10	1	-	-	28

INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN WARDS OF BOROUGH

	BURNHAM NORTH	BURNHAM SOUTH	CENTRAL NORTH	CENTRAL SOUTH	CHALVEY	FARNHAM NORTH	FARNHAM SOUTH	LANGLEY	STOKE NORTH	STOKE SOUTH	UPTON	TOTAL
Dysentery	-	-	1	-	-	2	1	4	1	-	-	9
Erysipelas	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	5
Food Poisoning	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	3
Malaria (Contracted abroad)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Measles	7	1	6	7	6	5	3	143	2	7	6	193
Meningococcal Infection	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Pneumonia	-	1	-	1	2	-	-	1	1	1	-	7
Polionyelitis -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paralytic	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	2
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	3	-	-	9	14
Scarlet Fever	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	7
Tuberculosis:												
Pulmonary	2	7	2	1	3	5	2	6	6	3	1	38
Non-Pulmonary	-	-	3	1	-	3	-	2	-	-	-	9
Whooping Cough	2	4	7	-	2	1	1	3	3	4	1	28

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

MEASLES

1961 gave the largest number of measles cases ever reported in this town, and so it is not surprising that 1962 showed relatively few. It is, however, perhaps interesting to look back over the past few years and see that the true biennial incidence of measles seems to have disappeared, and that the inter-epidemic years have often produced some 200 cases or more. The reason for this is not entirely clear, but may I think be due to considerable movements of population, and the consequent mixing of immune and non-immune children. The main incidence in 1961 was during the early part of the year, and one might have expected that the increase in the number of cases from July, August, September and October 1962 would have followed on with full scale epidemic. This did occur but the months of November and December 1962 had strangely enough, very few cases, and it was not until the early months of 1963 that the outbreak really got under way.

FOOD POISONING

Three cases of food poisoning were notified during the year but, on investigation, none was confirmed.

SCARLET FEVER

Only seven cases of scarlet fever were notified during 1962. That this disease has undergone a remarkable change during the past few years cannot be gainsaid and many of those now reported are nothing more than feverish illnesses with, perhaps, only a mild transitory rash which may be missed. It seems probable that modern antibiotic treatment has virtually eliminated the more virulent of the haemolytic streptococci, but this is by no means certain; we can only be thankful that such a change has taken place and trust the typical scarlet fever, which not many years ago was very much to be feared, will not return once again.

PUERPERAL PYREXIA

1961 gave the lowest number of cases of puerperal pyrexia ever recorded and the 1962 figures are only 2 above this. A total of 4 cases occurred during the year; they were fairly evenly spread during the spring and autumn months and no localised outbreak was reported.

POLIOMYELITIS

Two cases were notified during the year, but only one of these was confirmed; this was of a small boy aged 5 years in whom the paralysis was relatively slight. He had received only

one poliomyelitis inoculation from his family doctor, and although appointments were given for the remainder of the prophylactic treatment neither he or the other members of the family kept them. If they had done so, would we have been able to keep our record in Slough of not having had a case for five years ?

The other case was of a woman aged 42 but the final diagnosis was rheumatic spondylitis.

MALARIA

One case was notified during the year. This was a woman aged 32 years who had contracted the disease in the Cameroons whence she had recently returned after some eight years.

DYSENTERY

9 cases of dysentery were notified during the year but on investigation, none was confirmed.

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

The number of boosters in 1962 was nearly 300 greater than in 1961, but the number of primary inoculations carried out during the year under review was disappointingly low. This, however, is not peculiar to the southern part of the County and is probably due to two factors - firstly the great demand for vaccination against smallpox following the introduction of that disease into this country from India and Pakistan and secondly because of the change in immunisation policy. So far as vaccination against smallpox is concerned, details can be found a little later in this report.

I remarked in my last annual report that a change was being made from single to combined antigens, so that instead of giving protection against Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus separately (procedures requiring eight inoculations) we were now using a combined antigen which gave protection against these three diseases simultaneously. In addition to this it was decided, in order to minimise any possible risk of poliomyelitis, to give the poliomyelitis protection first and this meant changing the Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis prophylaxis from 4 - 6 months until after the poliomyelitis prophylaxis had been given, that is between 9 and 12 months of age. A careful watch will be kept on the 1963 inoculations to see whether we have got back to the previous percentage of children immunised or even have improved upon it.

Details of the immunisations carried out by the local health authority staffs and by family doctors are shown below.

the table appears complicated owing to the fact that there are single antigens and combinations of two or more antigens being used.

Primary Diphtheria	77
Primary Diphtheria/Whooping Cough	-
Primary Diphtheria/Tetanus	32
Primary Diphtheria/Tetanus/Whooping Cough	372
Primary Whooping Cough	12
Primary Tetanus	177

'Boosters' totalled 780.

DIPHTHERIA

The number of children receiving the initial dose dropped to an overall figure of 493, which was only slightly more than half the number in 1961. Of this total 315 were under the age of five. As 1597 children were born in 1961, this proportion of less than one-fifth is obviously unacceptable, and as stated above it is very much hoped that the 1963 proportion will be very much higher.

WHOOPING COUGH

Very low figures were recorded - 12 children received the single antigen and 372 the combined vaccine, a total of 384 as against 836 the previous year.

TETANUS

Exactly the same number of primary tetanus injections were given this year as last - 177.

SMALLPOX

The number of primary vaccinations of children carried out during the year was 2,261 and this with 821 re-vaccinations makes a total of 3,082. In addition to this no less than 7,750 vaccinations and re-vaccinations for persons over the age of 15 were carried out.

Since separate figures are not kept for adults, this latter total refers to the South Bucks area and not to the Borough of Slough alone. Almost all these vaccinations were carried out during the first six months of the year because of anxiety for personal safety in this country and because other countries were demanding current certificates of vaccination from people travelling from this country.

During the last few days of December 1961 a number of cases of Smallpox occurred in this country arising from travellers coming from India and Pakistan where Smallpox had been epidemic

for some time. Within a short period a number of cases of Smallpox had occurred in various parts of England and Wales

That there was a very great fear of Smallpox became obvious very quickly as a large number of people requested or even demanded vaccination - these requests came by letter, by telephone and in person. At no time was there any Public Health risk in this area and so vaccination was recommended only for people who had urgent business reasons for travelling to areas where cases already existed or where immediate vaccination was required for overseas travel. Apart from this individuals who asked for vaccination were informed that this was not necessary on public health grounds but that should they still want to be vaccinated they should get in touch with their family doctor who would arrange it if he felt it advisable.

Supplies of vaccine were normally obtained by general practitioners from the Public Health Laboratories at Reading, Oxford and Colindale, but this Department was able to assist to some extent, by increasing the stocks normally held so that urgent requests from family doctors could be dealt with without delay. Increased vaccinations meant an increased number of records to be completed, and although the number of record cards normally held is quite adequate, supplies soon ran short and arrangements for additional printing had to be made by the County Medical Officer.

International vaccination certificates must, in order to be valid, contain the stamp and signature of the Medical Officer of Health, saying that he authenticates the signature of the doctor carrying out the vaccination. There is always a trickle of these forms to be signed but as the summer grew near and holiday travel reached its peak many hundreds of international certificates requiring stamping arrived in the Department. Some were brought in by the holder or a friend, some were sent by post, and occasionally some were sent without an address to which the certificate could be returned. I can only hope that the non-arrival of these certificates did not cause too much embarrassment to the individuals concerned.

The last stage in this process was the return of the record cards by family doctors so that the appropriate payment could be made.

The fact that so many people received vaccination or re-vaccination last year means that the state of immunity in this country against this disease must be higher than for a long time. In the early stages there can be no doubt that fear of infection was the motivating cause for seeking vaccination but later the desire to travel abroad on holiday without difficulty or delay because of incomplete documentation was the main reason for seeking protection against Smallpox.

The number of international certificates actually signed is not recorded but many hundreds were brought to the Department and this gave an indication that the habit of taking holidays abroad is perhaps even more common than often thought.

VACCINATION AGAINST POLIOMYELITIS

The Minister of Health authorised the use of Oral poliomyelitis vaccine in February, 1962. The vaccine needed to be stored at a temperature of -5°C or below and as it was not possible to obtain such storage facilities locally, a deep-freeze unit had to be provided. After removal from the deep-freeze, the vaccine could be stored at normal domestic refrigerator temperatures of 0° - 4°C for up to one month. Later this period was extended to three months and eventually batches of vaccine could be stored in normal domestic refrigerators for up to six months; this enabled the deep-freeze cabinet to be returned to the County Medical Officer so that it could be used for other purposes. All supplies of vaccine were channelled through the Local Health Authority, and supplies were issued to family doctors either personally or by posting in insulated containers provided expressly for this purpose.

During the earlier days of issue of oral Sabin vaccine, injections by Salk vaccine continued. For this reason the figures given below perhaps look a little confusing, but they mean that more than 8,000 people were protected against poliomyelitis either by the Salk injections or by the Sabin oral vaccine.

No. of fourth doses given	-	Salk	2,176
		Oral	936

No. of third doses given	-	Salk	4,179
		Oral	1,511

2,593 people had a full course of 3 doses of oral vaccine, 255 people received two doses of Salk vaccine and were awaiting a booster dose, possibly Salk, but probably Sabin. At the end of the year 717 people had started a course of Sabin, of which number 4 had received one dose and 288 two doses.

The above details relate to people living in Slough Borough, Eton Rural and Eton Urban areas.

TUBERCULOSIS

(New Cases

- (1) *Pulmonary T.B.* There was a decrease in the number of new cases notified in 1962, 38 compared with 53 in 1961; of these 27 were males and 11 females. As the population of the town increased by some 2,000 the rate of 0.45 per thousand of the population is much lower than the previous year's rate and is, in fact, the lowest rate so far recorded.

(ii) *Non-Pulmonary T.B.* Nine new cases were notified (5 males and 4 females). This was four more than in 1961.

The following table gives details of the age and sex incidence of all new cases of tuberculosis notified during the year:-

Age in Years	PULMONARY		NON-PULMONARY	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
0 -	-	-	-	-
1 -	-	-	1	-
15 -	4	3	2	-
25 -	8	2	-	3
35 -	2	2	1	-
45 -	10	4	-	1
65 and over	3	-	1	-
TOTALS	27	11	5	4

(b) Notification Register

The number of cases on the Register at the 31st December 1962 was as follows:-

PULMONARY			NON-PULMONARY		
Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
542	322	864	68	63	131

The register is made up of new cases and "inward transfers", minus "outward transfers", cures and deaths. The number showed a decrease of 67 in the pulmonary section and an increase of 9 in the non-pulmonary section.

(c) B.C.G. Vaccinations

1,766 children in the thirteen to fourteen years age group were eligible for B.C.G. vaccination in 1962. Of this number 1,369 accepted the test to determine sensitivity to tuberculosis - this is 77.5% and is a better acceptance rate than last year - 71%.

Of the number tested 1,101 showed no reaction and were given the vaccine. 113 showed some experience of tuberculosis - this calls for no particular comment as these 113 children were spread over all the schools concerned, but they were, of course, offered an X-ray at the Chest Clinic, Upton Hospital as usual.

(d) Deaths from Tuberculosis

There were four deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis and none by the Non-Pulmonary form of the disease.

The following table gives details for the past five years.

<i>Year</i>	<i>No. Tested</i>	<i>No. Positive</i>	<i>No. Negative</i>
1958	1009	116 (11.49%)	893 (88.5%)
1959	937	90 (9.6%)	847 (90.4%)
1960	1422	74 (5.2%)	1348 (94.8%)
1961	1226	132 (10.8%)	1094 (89.2%)
1962	1369	113 (8.25%)	1256 (91.7%)

TUBERCULOSIS

YEAR	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962
POPULATION	66,950	67,090	67,940	69,190	71,560	73,620	75,450	77,410	80,690	82,700
P - PULMONARY N.P. - NON-PULMONARY	P N.P.	P N.P.	P N.P.	P N.P.	P N.P.	P N.P.	P N.P.	P N.P.	P N.P.	P N.P.
CASES. NOTIFIED	55 4	69 9	93 11	57 12	36 6	48 9	40 7	51 5	53 5	38 9
NOTIFICATIONS PER 1,000 OF POPULATION	0.82 0.06	1.03 0.13	1.36 0.16	0.82 0.17	0.50 0.08	0.65 0.12	0.53 0.09	0.63 0.07	0.60 0.06	0.45 0.11

DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS

Year	Population	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary Death Rate per 1000 Population
		Males	Females	Males	Females	
1953	66,950	5	1	-	-	0.09
1954	67,090	5	2	-	2	0.13
1955	67,940	5	3	-	1	0.12
1956	69,190	7	1	1	-	0.12
1957	71,560	4	1	-	-	0.07
1958	73,620	4	-	1	1	0.05
1959	75,450	7	-	1	1	0.09
1960	77,410	2	1	-	1	0.04
1961	80,690	5	-	-	1	0.06
1962	82,700	2	2	-	-	0.04

HOME SAFETY

The Slough Home Safety Association, a voluntary organisation, was formed in 1956 to foster Home Safety. This organisation performed much valuable work during its existence and a film called 'Fabrics and Fire Guards' made by this Association is still being shown in many parts of the country and also overseas.

In 1961 the Home Safety Act was placed upon the Statute Book and this enabled Local Authorities to participate actively in Home Safety. After discussions with the Home Safety Association, the Borough Council decided to form a Home Safety Council on similar lines to the Road Safety Council which has been in operation for some years. As will be seen below this new Council, which was formed towards the end of 1962 was very broadly based.

The inaugural meeting was held on the 19th November and His Worship the Mayor, Alderman F.S.G. Room was elected Chairman.

The following is the constitution of the Home Safety Council.

The Mayor of the Borough for the time being.

Four representatives appointed by the Slough Borough Council.

The Medical Officer of Health for the Borough of Slough or his representative.

All Members of the Health and Sanitation Committee of Slough Borough Council.

Two representatives of the Bucks County Council.

Two representatives of the Slough Committee for Education.
The Borough Education Officer for Slough, or his representative.

Two representatives of the School Teachers' Organisation.
One representative of the local Branch of the Society for Mentally Handicapped Children.

One representative of the British Red Cross Society.

One representative of the St. John Ambulance Brigade.

One representative of a Youth Organisation.

One representative of Slough Chamber of Commerce.

One representative of Slough Trades Council.

One representative of Slough Cinema Managers.

The South Bucks Area Medical Officer or his representative.

One representative of the Old Peoples' Welfare Group.

One representative of the Slough Mothers' Club.

One representative from the Windsor Group (No. 4) Housing Management Committee.

One representative of the local branch of the British Medical Association.

Two persons may be appointed by the Slough Home Safety Council having special knowledge of home safety.

One representative appointed by the North Thames Gas Board.

One representative appointed by the Southern Electricity Board.

At its first meeting the Council decided to explore two main avenues and to this purpose set up two sub-committees. The first sub-committee, the Film Sub-Committee, was to consider the possibility of producing a film upon the dangers of poisons in the home. The other sub-committee, the Schools Sub-Committee, was to foster Home Safety education in the schools. Although the Home Safety Association and the subsequent Home Safety Council serve to focus attention on Home Safety and indeed determine the policy of Home Safety education, it must not be forgotten that Home Safety education is, in fact, already carried out by many officers of the Health Department. Whether they be employees of the Slough Borough Council or of the Bucks. County Council the doctors, public health inspectors, health visitors, district nurses, home helps, teachers and other health and welfare officers all play a part in furthering Home Safety. It is particularly pleasing, therefore, that the constitution of the Home Safety Council, is so broadly based that the officers of the Borough and the County can work side by side to a common end.

It was decided that in future meetings of the Home Safety Council should be held in each alternate cycle of Borough Council meetings.

During the whole of the year the subject of home safety continued to be stressed at all routine health education groups meeting in the town. Posters, pamphlets, talks and films all played a prominent part in the propaganda campaign. An 'Industrial, Road and Home Safety Conference and Exhibition' was held in Slough in October and the Department provided and staffed a stand. As this was primarily an industrial exhibition it may be said that not a great deal of interest was aroused by the safety - on the other hand the parties of apprentices who visited the exhibition seemed to find something useful at the stand, if only by discovering how easily one may be poisoned by pills so closely resembling sweets.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE

The following table shows the location of the various Welfare Centres in and around Slough.

	<i>Mondays</i>	<i>Tuesdays</i>	<i>Wednesdays</i>	<i>Thursdays</i>	<i>Fridays</i>
WEEKLY	Health Centre, Burlington Road.	Langley - Parlaunt Park	Langley - 173, Trelawney Avenue (all day)	Farnham Royal	Cippe
	St. Michael's Community Centre, Farnham Road	Britwell Child Welfare Centre	Burnham	Health Centre, Burling- ton Road Lent Rise	Wexha Court Britw Child Welfa Centr
TWICE MONTHLY	Farnham Common	Stoke Poges Colnbrook	Datchet		

Building commenced during the early part of the year and two new health centres at Britwell Estate and Langley Airfield Estate. Although it was expected that one would have been opened by the end of the year, this was not the case because of delays in the supply of materials. The Britwell centre finally opened on the 26th February 1963 and the Langley centre on the 16th April, 1963.

HEALTH EDUCATION

A varied programme has been undertaken throughout the year. The routine teaching groups showed an increased attendance and 'Smoking and Health' was the main new subject requiring attention.

Ante-Natal Classes

These weekly classes continued to attract the attendance of the majority of young women expecting their first baby. A record number of 678 expectant mothers from this area attended and in addition no less than 368 expectant fathers attended the evening film shows which were held alternately at the Health Centre, Burlington Road and in the Social Den, Upton Hospital.

Mothers' Clubs

The increasing membership and enthusiastic audiences have indicated the help these Clubs continued to give to mothers of young families. Discussions, talks and demonstrations on many aspects of health were all well attended.

The annual Rally of Mothers' Clubs representatives from all over Buckinghamshire was opened by the Mayor in the Social Centre, Farnham Road on the 26th May, and was attended by over 100 mothers. The local clubs were responsible for all the arrangements and they also put on an attractive exhibition depicting the spare time activities of mothers including interior decorating, learning to drive, photography, etc.

Health Teaching in Schools was mainly directed at senior girls attending four of the local schools but talks were also given to pupils in five junior schools on hygiene and other aspects of health.

Following the appointment of a Dental Auxiliary in September a systematic programme of dental health education was started in the junior schools.

First Aid to Nose Resuscitation

Demonstrations and talks were given on twenty-six occasions to audiences of Public Health staff, ambulance drivers, youth clubs and other interested groups. The AMBU Manikin continued to prove an invaluable asset, as it allowed the technique of resuscitation to be practised.

Smoking and Health

Following the publication of this booklet by the Royal College of Physicians in May 1962, a health education programme was started. Many types of visual aids such as films and film strips were reviewed and when suitable, were made available for use. Factual talks were given to adult groups and youth clubs when requested. Posters were displayed and bookmarks distributed through the libraries. A small survey was carried out in local schools to discover the pupils' attitudes towards smoking, and an anti-smoking campaign in schools was discussed with the Borough Education Officer and local Head Teachers.

ANTE-NATAL BLOOD TESTS

Blood tests for expectant mothers were continued with the cooperation of hospitals and family doctors; the arrangements continued to function smoothly.

MARRIED WOMENS' ADVISORY CLINIC

The following clinics are held locally:-

Upton Hospital, Albert Street	Mondays	6 - 7.30 p.m.
	Tuesdays	6 - 7.30 p.m.
	Wednesdays	11 a.m. - 12.30 p.m.
Health Centre, Burlington Road	Fridays	2.15 - 4 p.m.

DAY NURSERY

Children from 0 - 3 years are cared for daily at the Manor Park Day Nursery.

The Nursery is situated at:-

Penn Road, Manor Park, Slough

Applications for admission should be made to the Area Medical Officer. 'Glenhartie', 15, Bath Road, Slough.

RESIDENTIAL NURSERY AND CHILDREN'S HOMES

Residential accommodation for children needing care by the local Authority is supplied by the Children's Department of the Bucks County Council at Brookside Residential Nursery Salt Hill, Slough, Manor Lodge, Mildenhall Road, Slough and 'Elmside', 1, Upton Road, Slough.

Brookside cares for children under 5 years of age, and Manor Lodge for those who have reached school age. 'Elmside' looks after boys aged between 15 and 18 years.

Accommodation is restricted and although it is always hoped a place will be available for urgent cases, no guarantee that a child can be admitted to a particular nursery or home can be given.

Applications should be made to the Children's Officer 18, Walton Street, Aylesbury.

HOSPITAL SERVICE

The Borough of Slough is served by the following hospitals and maternity homes.

General Hospitals

Upton Hospital, Albert Street
King Edward VII Hospital, Windsor
Canadian Red Cross Memorial Hospital, Taplow
Old Windsor Hospital, Old Windsor

Work commenced during the year on an entirely new general hospital at Wexham Park.

Infectious Diseases

Maidenhead Isolation Hospital
St. John's Hospital, Uxbridge

Renal Diseases

The nearest treatment centres are:-

King Edward VII Hospital, Windsor
Royal Berkshire Hospital, Reading
Hillingdon Hospital, Hillingdon

Tuberculosis

- (1) *Chest Clinic*. The Chest Clinic is at Upton Hospital, Albert Street, Slough. All arrangements are made by the Chest Physician, who is available at the Hospital (Tel. No. SLOUGH 23261).
- (2) *Hospital Treatment for Chest Diseases*. All admissions are arranged by the Chest Physician, Chest Clinic, Upton Hospital, Slough.

Maternity Accommodation

Upton Hospital, Albert Street, Slough
Canadian Red Cross Memorial Hospital, Taplow
Colinswood Maternity Home, Farnham Common
Old Windsor Hospital, Old Windsor
Princess Christian Maternity Home, Windsor

If the patient's own doctor thinks that admission should be made on medical grounds, the patient is referred to the nearest ante-natal clinic, but if admission is sought on domiciliary or special grounds, application is made through the Area Medical Officer, who makes his recommendation to the Hospital Management Committee following a report on home circumstances made by the Health Visitor.

Part III Accommodation

Aged Persons

**Sick
Non-Sick**

**Upton Hospital
Upton Towers
Upton Hospital
Wexham Court Host**

*

*

*

ANNUAL REPORT

OF

THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
(Leslie A. Stroud, D.P.A., F.R.S.H., F.A.P.H.I.)

for the year 1962

* * *

- Section A - General Administration
- Section B - Housing
- Section C - Safeguarding of Food Supplies
- Section D - Clean Air
- Section E - Factories, Workplaces and Shops
- Section F - Pest Infestation Control
- Section G - Miscellaneous

SECTION A

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

TABLE NO. 1

Summary:

Total Inspections	17,867
Complaints received and investigated	851
Preliminary Notices served	179
Secondary Notices served	48
Statutory Notices served	10
Letters received	7,025
Letters despatched	4,567
Interviews with Property Owners, Agents and Builders, etc.	1,148

TABLE NO. 2

Analysis of Inspection Work performed by the District Public Health Inspectors:

Housing	4,152
Inspection of Meat and Other Foods	1,322
Premises at which Food is prepared, stored or sold	1,432
Dairies	88
Factories, Workplaces and Offices	532
Shops	1,193
General Sanitation	4,268
Pest Infestation Control (including visits by the Pest Control Officer)	3,830
Miscellaneous Matters	853

TABLE NO. 3

Premises at which Improvements were effected:

Dwelling houses (rendered habitable)...	...	...	...
Premises used for Preparation and Sale of Food	...		
Factories and Workplaces	...	...	...
Shops ...	...	...	...
Drainage (reconstruction, repair etc.)	...	...
Miscellaneous	...	...	...

S E C T I O N B

HOUSING

Of the many factors which are complementary to peaceful coexistence adequate and suitable housing accommodation is second to none; it is a vital aspect of environmental public health work.

For many years a two-fold problem has existed - viz. shortage of new dwellings, and an abundance of those which are old and unsuitable.

Housing drives, factory built houses, higher density acre, and impingement upon Green Belts are some of the proposals to provide new houses.

Slum clearance continues apace, but progress depends largely on the availability of new council houses, which industry is dominated by the ever-decreasing supply of available building land.

Of existing houses, many which are not "unfit" as defined by Section 4 of the Housing Act, 1957, certainly do not possess the amenities expected today, e.g. a constant supply of hot water for all domestic purposes which should be, in all conscience, a compulsory provision in any house.

Despite the progress made since the end of the war the problems of unfit houses, overcrowding and low standards are still with us. The question "When can every family look forward to having a separate home with modern facilities?" remains unanswerable.

The Minister of Housing and Local Government said recently that the Housing situation in Britain will never be put right until the whole population recognises that it has to pay economic rents and that this applied to both local authority and private housing. The local authority should turn their eyes on private landlords who did not follow, what he described as a "decent code" e.g. people who bump up existing tenancies to the full market rent overnight; people who think

they can deal with tenants without human understanding; those who want to extract the last shilling from the scarcity market.

Clearance

A further programme proposing action in respect of some 107 houses by way of clearance areas and demolition orders was recommended to the Council in July 1960. Because of the difficulty in providing alternative accommodation the implementation of this programme had to be deferred for some twelve months.

During 1962, eight Clearance Areas were declared by resolution of the Slough Borough Council, to be dealt with as follows:-

5 Areas by way of Compulsory Purchase Orders	..	39 houses
3 Areas by way of Clearance Orders	.. ..	8 houses

One individual unfit house was 'closed' by action under Section 17 (1) of the Housing Act, 1957.

Improvement Grants

There was no significant variation in the number of people applying for standard grants during the year. Forty-seven applications were received, of which two were refused. In one of these cases work had commenced before the application was considered by the Committee. In the other instance the Council was not satisfied that the dwelling had a satisfactory life of fifteen years ahead of it, there being a strong possibility that the house in question would be affected by redevelopment proposals within that period. Of the forty-seven applications, thirty-eight were from owner-occupiers. One application for a discretionary grant was received and approved to the extent of £8, this being for the provision of a bathroom. As was to be expected, because of their ease of application, standard grants have largely superseded discretionary grants in this area. Discretionary grants are paid on the expenditure estimated, while standard grants are based on the expenditure actually incurred. Subject to a maximum ceiling of cost, discretionary grants are still available for more elaborate proposals, and for work such as converting one large house into several self-contained dwellings, but it has been found in the case of this latter type of project that the controlled rents of the individual resulting dwellings have deterred prospective applicants. The controlled rent in an area such as this bears little relationship to the actual rent which can be commanded without any difficulty; it is thus often more economical for an applicant to pay for the total cost of conversion himself and to charge a full market rent rather than accept a discretionary grant and to be restricted to charging the standard rent.

Several enquiries were received regarding the possibility of obtaining a standard grant where the house in question was found likely to be affected by redevelopment proposals within fifteen years and the owner was thus not able to make an effective application. It is a statutory obligation of the local authority to be satisfied that the house will be available for use as a dwelling for fifteen years.

A total of £2,908 was paid in standard grants over the period of twelve months in respect of the improvement of thirty-four dwellings. The amenities provided consisted of:-

Baths	...	23
Wash-hand basins	...	26
Hot water supplies	...	31
Internal water closets	...	18
Food storage	...	13

The Repair and Maintenance of Dwelling Houses

During the year 107 complaints from tenants regarding the disrepair of their dwellings were made to the Department. The District Public Health Inspectors made 2,498 visits to 1,654 houses for the purpose of initial inspections and subsequent re-inspection in securing compliance with notices served and for supervising repair works in progress.

In connection with this work under the Housing and Public Health Acts, 10 statutory, 207 preliminary written and verbal notices and 60 Requisitions for Information notices to ownership of premises were served during 1962.

It was found unnecessary for the Council to carry out repairs in default of Owners.

Overcrowding

An increase of alleged cases of overcrowding in dwelling houses in the Borough has caused more work for officers in the Department. Complaints are generally in respect of houses occupied by coloured immigrants whose numbers seem to increase. Although all complaints are investigated cases of gross statutory overcrowding are rare; this is due mainly to the very poor standards laid down for overcrowding which are as follows:-

TABLE NO. 1

<i>No. of Habitable Rooms including Bedrooms</i>	<i>Maximum Number of Persons</i>
1	2
2	3
3	5
4	7½
5	10

TABLE NO. 2

<i>Floor Areas of Habitable Rooms</i>	<i>Maximum Number of Persons</i>
10 sq.ft. or more	2
90 sq.ft. or more but less than 110 sq.ft.	1½
70 sq.ft. or more but less than 90 sq.ft.	1
50 sq.ft. or more but less than 70 sq.ft.	½
Under 50 sq.ft.	NIL

The statutory permitted number is the figure which is the lesser of the two totals obtained in respect of a house using the above two Tables.

Bearing in mind that under the Housing Act a child under 1 years accounts as a half and a baby under one year does not count at all, it is possible to allow the following case to stand without statutory overcrowding.

A house having two living rooms each 120 sq.ft.

Two bedrooms each 110 sq.ft.

Permitted Number 9½

One bedroom 90 sq.ft.

Family consisting of:-

Husband, Wife, Boys of 19, 12, 9, 8, 4 and 2 years of age and Girls of 18, 16, 6 5 and 3 years of age and one baby girl of 6 months

Total number of Persons 14

Equivalent number of Adults 9½

For the purpose of the Act living rooms are counted as rooms, and this, together with the ridiculous situation whereby a baby is assumed to require no living space at all, makes a mockery of the whole idea of overcrowding and allows the imaginary family above to live within the law in one small house.

Local authorities are now empowered, under the Housing Act, to control conditions in houses in multi-occupation and it

is hoped that this may help as regards houses which are occupied by more than one family.

During the year 149 visits were made by your officers connection with overcrowding.

Houses in Multiple Occupation

In recent years, as one of the many consequences of the general shortage of housing accommodation, there has been a growing tendency to use houses for occupation by more than one family - in some cases there may be two, three or even four families.

With sufficient capital and disregard for human comfort such an investment can be a very lucrative business and throughout the country many landlords have been quick to realise this comparatively easy method of exploiting the housing shortage. Properties built in the Victorian era with numerous large rooms have to date lent themselves to multiple occupation and smaller and more modern houses, for example, semi-detached, have also been brought into this use.

Problems invariably arise in such premises, as the individual "letting" is nearly always sub-standard in many respects; e.g., water supply, sanitary conveniences, ventilation, facilities for storage, preparation and cooking of food and not least, overcrowding.

The Public Health Act, 1961, gives local authorities strong powers for dealing with this new problem. The implementation of these new powers calls for the fullest co-operation of local authorities, property owners and tenants themselves. The Minister of Housing and Local Government has urged that wherever possible improvements should be on a voluntary basis, but where this approach fails, the local authorities have the necessary powers to deal with the problem.

A number of houses in multiple occupation exist within the Borough, although this has not assumed the proportions which exist in many other areas. Much useful work has been achieved so far on a voluntary basis, and a survey of such houses was commenced towards the end of 1962. This subject is one which will continue to demand the attention of your officers more closely in the near future.

Council Housing Estates

(a) Allocation of Council Houses.

One hundred and ten inspections were made by the District Public Health Inspectors for the purpose of ascertaining the existence of insanitary or sub

standard conditions of houses occupied by applicants under the Council's Housing Points scheme, to enable a recommendation of award of points under this heading to be made.

(b) *Council Housing Estates.*

Liaison is maintained with the Housing Department on various matters concerning Council Estates and other Corporation property. Numerous visits of inspection of such properties were made by the District Public Health Inspectors in connection with structural defects, rodent control, vermin, etc.

Caravans

The caravan poses three main conflicting interests.

The caravanner from choice or necessity wants a small plot of ground with reasonable facilities where he can provide home, temporarily or permanently; the manufacturer of caravans sees an opportunity of supplying the need, and his interests have become big business ... the more caravan sites the better he likes it. The Government and local authorities do not tolerate caravan sites within reason, but must always be careful to guard against a situation which could easily get out of control.

Somewhere within these differing interests lies a happy medium, where people can live in caravans and enjoy basic facilities with a fair degree of comfort, and which does not offend the eye or annoy the neighbourhood.

It may be argued that if people choose to live in caravans, provision must be made for them but it would be wrong to try to meet present housing deficiencies by a large scale increase in residential caravan sites.

Well over a quarter of a million people live in caravans. The National Caravan Council claim that this number could be doubled if additional sites were provided.

In April, 1962, a site licence was granted in respect of the Borough Farm Caravan Site, which has permanent planning permission and where there are some eighty caravans. In addition, 32 caravans are licensed at fifteen sites in various parts of the town; these are subject to periodic site licences of one, two or three years.

In relation to caravans, some 583 visits of inspection were made by your officers during the year.

1890-1891. The first year of the new century. The first year of the new century. The first year of the new century.

The first year of the new century. The first year of the new century. The first year of the new century.

The first year of the new century. The first year of the new century. The first year of the new century.

The first year of the new century. The first year of the new century. The first year of the new century.

The first year of the new century. The first year of the new century. The first year of the new century.

The first year of the new century. The first year of the new century. The first year of the new century.

The first year of the new century. The first year of the new century. The first year of the new century.

The first year of the new century. The first year of the new century. The first year of the new century.

The first year of the new century. The first year of the new century. The first year of the new century.

In addition, particulars as to properties were supplied in all cases in which mortgages were being arranged under the Housing Acts, in respect of the purchase of small dwellings. A number of requests for information was dealt with during the year as to whether properties changing hands were included in the Borough Council's Programme of Housing Clearance.

S E C T I O N C

SAFEGUARDING OF FOOD SUPPLIES

Food can be dangerous and can bring illness both through food poisoning and through harmful materials accidentally gaining access during its preparation. Correct handling of food at all its stages from manufacturer to customer helps to eliminate this danger.

The law provides that everyone concerned in the handling of food is responsible to the general public for the safety and cleanliness of food supplies. This is one of the most important duties carried out by the Public Health Inspectors and one to which constant attention must be given.

The Department's activities relating to food may be classified under three headings - the hygiene of preparation, handling and display, inspection and compositional standards.

Food Hygiene

During 1962, 2745 visits of inspection were made by the Public Health Inspectors to food premises within the Borough, including food factories, catering establishments, factory and school canteens, bakeries, dairies, manufacturers and retailers of ice cream, markets, licensed premises, meat, fish, grocery and other retail shops.

School kitchens and canteens in County Council and private schools were regularly inspected throughout the year, and although the standard of food handling is high the premises in some instances are unsuitable. In cases where improvements have been required a report has been sent to the Education Officer and certainly where possible, improvements have been made.

The correct method of food handling is still the biggest problem in the field of food hygiene in spite of the ever increasing use of plastics, stainless steel, glazed tiles and other excellent materials. It is significant that many firms whose premises reach a high standard of perfection insist on a similar standard of personal hygiene because they know that food should be handled with scrupulous care and with the utmost attention to hygiene. Unhygienic practices in food handling are

points which the Public Health Inspectors deal with at management level at the time of their inspections. Members of the general public in their own interest, can contribute by being more critical or by reporting to this Department any incident which deserves the attention of its officers.

On the instructions of the Health and Sanitation Committee legal proceedings were instituted against a local cafe for infringements of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, and the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960. The case was heard in the Magistrates Court and fines totalling £100 were imposed.

Milk Supply

The register of Dairies and Distributors of Milk (other than dairy farms and farmers) kept in the Department showed the following licences at the end of 1962:-

Dealer's (Pasteuriser's) Licences	-	2
Dealer's (Pre-packed Milk) Licences		
Tuberculin Tested	-	30
Pasteurised	-	50
Sterilised	-	59

From 25th June, 1962, all milk sold retail in England and Wales must normally be "specially designated" milk, that is "pasteurised", "sterilised" or "tuberculin tested". The specification of areas whereby the use of the special designations for milk was made obligatory began in 1951 and in the Borough all milk sold retail has for some years been in accordance with special designations. Therefore all milk sold within the Borough must be either heat-treated (pasteurised or sterilised) or tuberculin-tested, and this includes milk sold from automatic vending machines.

Two dairies in the Borough receive bulk milk from various suppliers for heat treatment and bottling. Both are visited regularly by the Public Health Inspectors, and 126 samples were taken by these officers for laboratory examination to ensure the efficiency of heat treatment. During the year 88 visits were made to registered premises.

Both dairies continue to operate their own control laboratories to maintain a constant check on the quality of the milk they receive, and I am pleased to report the will and useful co-operation of the laboratory personnel with your Officers.

Bacteriological Examination of Milk

During 1962, 168 samples of milk of various designations were procured for bacteriological examination. The details are shown in Table No. 4. Not one of the samples failed to pass the prescribed tests.

TABLE NO. 4

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK

CLASSIFICATION	NO. OF SAMPLES
Pasteurised Milk	49
Tuberculin-Tested (Pasteurised) Milk	77
Tuberculin Tested Milk	35
Sterilised Milk	7

Manufacture, Storage and Sale of Ice Cream

Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955 requires that all premises used for the sale, the manufacture for the purpose of sale, or the storage of ice cream intended for sale, shall be registered with the Local Authority.

During 1962, 7 additional premises were registered for the sale of ice cream, 84 visits were made to registered premises, and 52 samples of ice cream were taken for bacteriological examination with the following results:-

TABLE NO. 5

METHYLENE BLUE REDUCTION TEST	
PROVISIONAL GRADE	SAMPLES
1) satisfactory	52
3) unsatisfactory	-
4)	

Attention has been given during inspections to the requirements of the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations in the case of manufacturers and supervision has been maintained in the case of retailers, particularly itinerant vendors whose standards were generally satisfactory.

Preparation and Manufacture of Preserved Foods

At the end of 1962, 60 premises in the Borough were registered in pursuance of Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955 in respect of the manufacture of preserved foods as follows:-

Canning Factories	...	...	...	...	2
Preparation of Shell Fish	...	...	...	...	2
Fish Friers	...	...	...	...	15
Manufacturers of Sausages and cooked meats					41

Bakehouses

At the end of 1962, there were 9 premises within the Borough registered as bakehouses, and frequent inspections throughout the year revealed that conditions were satisfactory.

Municipal Abattoir

In the Annual Report for 1960 I referred to the legislation giving effect to the Government's policy on slaughterhouses the reasons which led the Borough Council to consider seriously the erection of a new abattoir as being the only practicable solution to the problem.

The Borough Council have continued, during 1962, to search for a suitable site for the erection of a new abattoir but so far without success.

Slaughtering of animals for human consumption has continued at the existing abattoir in spite of its obvious limitations and the figures show a continuing increase in demand for slaughtering facilities.

The premises are under the full time supervision of officers who control the running of the premises and examine carcasses and offals of animals slaughtered.

The Abattoir facilities are available from Monday morning to Saturday noon inclusive. Slaughtering on Saturday afternoon and Sunday is not permitted excepting on special occasions premises are opened at 7.0 a.m. and closed as required up to 8.0 p.m. according to seasonal demands. An Inspector is on duty until the Abattoir is closed.

The following figures show the throughput of animals since the Borough Council took over the premises as a Municipal Abattoir in 1954. They indicate an increasing demand for the slaughter of animals in this area.

	<i>Cattle</i>	<i>Sheep & Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Total</i>
1954	2,977	5,351	3,460	1,078	12,866
1955	2,040	3,721	5,662	1,073	12,500
1956	1,990	3,736	4,854	1,135	11,715
1957	2,475	4,380	6,608	1,121	14,584
1958	3,370	5,585	8,683	987	18,625
1959	3,393	9,733	8,432	929	22,487
1960	3,764	6,898	8,281	1,083	20,026
1961	4,512	10,744	10,256	1,234	26,746
1962	4,205	11,477	13,312	1,142	30,136

During the financial year ending 31st March, 1963, tolls for the use of the Abattoir amounted to £4,108. This shows an increase over the previous year of £480 and is nearly 2½ times the amount for the year 1955/56.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1958

In pursuance of the above Act, the Borough Council licensed 9 persons engaged in the slaughtering of food animals.

Electrical stunning apparatus is used at the Municipal Abattoir for small animals, and a captive bolt pistol for stunning larger animals. Both methods of stunning are humane and efficient. No contraventions of the Act were observed.

I am pleased to repeat my previous observations regarding the standard of butchering carried out by the slaughtermen. This has continued in an efficient and skilful manner and to the general satisfaction of the wholesale and retail butchers.

Inspection of Meat and Other Foods

All carcasses and offals of animals slaughtered at the Municipal Abattoir were examined by the District Public Health Inspectors, all of whom possess the Diploma of the Royal Society of Health for the inspection of meat and other foods. As 100% inspection of home-killed meat was achieved.

The value to the Wholesaler of animals slaughtered at the Municipal Abattoir during the year amounted to a figure reaching £500,000 and it is some measure of the responsibility attached to this important work performed by your officers that Mr. [Name] during his tour of duty at the Abattoir for the year, has

to examine and pass judgment upon some £100,000 worth of meat. The Inspector is charged with a triple responsibility, to the Borough Council, the owner of the animals and to the general public. The nature of the work requires the Inspector's constant vigilance, often in unpleasant and uncomfortable surroundings and regularly outside of normal working hours. I would like to record my appreciation of the thorough manner in which the District Public Health Inspectors have carried out this work.

Table No. 6 gives particulars of carcasses examined and rejected as unfit for human consumption. After examination, carcasses passed as fit for human consumption, are marked with the Inspecting Officer's stamp in accordance with the meat marking scheme.

In addition to inspection carried out at the Abattoir it was necessary, from time to time, to examine carcasses and offals delivered to a meat depot on the Trading Estate and at retail butchers shops from sources outside Slough.

During 1962, 378 visits were made to wholesale and retail food premises in the Borough for the purpose of examining other foods. As a result of these visits over 4 tons of food, considered by the Inspectors to be unfit for human consumption, was voluntarily surrendered to the Corporation for destruction.

Details of these foods are as follows:-

				Wt. in lbs.
Canned Foods	...	...	...	6,555
Imported Meats	...	...	...	1,051
Fish	...	...	...	295
Fruit	...	...	...	238
Bacon	...	...	...	77
Cheese and Butter	...	...	...	38
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	1,588

Imported Horse Flesh

Regular consignments of boneless horse flesh imported from South America are received at a cold storage warehouse within the Borough. An average consignment is of some 20 tons packed in 1 cwt. bags or 30 lb. cartons. This meat is normally intended for human consumption although, in fact, is invariably used for animal feeding.

Salmonella infection is commonly found in imported horse flesh from South America and very close attention has therefore to be given to this product. The Port of London Health Authority informs the department when consignments intended for Slough and on arrival at the cold store arrangements are made for immediate sampling to detect the presence

of salmonella infections. After careful study of the results of sampling, the meat is released from the store subject to assurances as to adequate sterilisation. This meat is eventually collected by the purchasers, either for sterilisation or otherwise, and there is very close liaison with the Public Health Inspector of the authority in whose area it is to be treated and sold. None of this meat is marketed within the Borough.

Disposal of Unsound Food

At the Abattoir, all meat rejected by the meat inspector as unfit for human consumption is weighed and removed from the hanging rooms to a detention store where it is retained for a limited period for inspection by the owner or his representative. Some of this rejected material is suitable for sterilisation and processing into animal feeding stuffs and fertilizers and the slaughtering contractor is permitted on behalf of the owners, to dispose of this meat to approved collectors for transport to processors.

All carcasses and offals which have been rejected, and are not considered by the Inspector to be suitable for processing, are destroyed.

Other foods referred to under previous headings are collected by van and disposed of by tipping.

Table No. 7 shows the weights of rejected meat dealt with in 1962. The total amount represents less than 1% by weight of meat inspected.

Hygiene of Meat Transport

The handling of meat and offal in transit to wholesale and retail butchery premises from the Municipal Abattoir and from outside the Borough has again been a subject for regular observation by the District Public Health Inspectors. It has been necessary in some cases to issue warnings regarding standards of cleanliness in regard to vehicles and protective clothing. In the case of vehicles operating from the abattoir, they are, of course, under the watchful eye of the Inspector on duty and operators are encouraged by this fact to keep a check on their standards. No legal proceedings were required under this heading during 1962.

Food Hawkers

The registration of hawkers of certain classes of food and their food storage premises has been compulsory in the Borough since 1959 when the Council implemented Section 115 of the Slough Corporation Act 1949. For the purposes of this section a hawker is described as "a person who sells, offers or exposes for sale food from any cart, barrow or other vehicle or from a

basket, pail, tray or other receptacle within the Borough of Slough" and "food" refers mainly to open food. Both vehicles and storage premises are regularly inspected by the District Public Health Inspectors.

At the end of 1962 there were 24 hawkers on the regis

TABLE NO. 6

SLOUGH MUNICIPAL ABATTOIR

Summary of Carcasses Inspected and Condemedned					
	CATTLE EX. COWS	COWS	SHEEP & LAMBS	PIGS	CALVES
No. of animals slaughtered and inspected	3,121	1,084	11,477	13,312	1,142
Disease except Tuberculosis					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	3	5	4	25	8
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	518	325	147	738	4
Per cent of number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	16.7	30.4	1.3	5.7	1.0
Tuberculosis					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	-	1	-	1	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	2	7	-	340	-
Per cent of number inspected affected with tuberculosis	0.06	0.7	-	2.5	-
Sticercosis Bovis					
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	67	8	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treatment refrigeration	15	1	-	-	-
Generalized condition whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-

TABLE NO. 7

Weights of Condemedned Meat						
	TUBERCULOSIS			OTHER DISEASES		
	cwts.	qrs.	lbs.	cwts.	qrs.	lbs.
Carcasses	6	1	16	52	1	2
Parts of Carcasses and Organs ...	34	1	8	142	1	9
TOTALS ...	40	2	24	194	2	11
TOTAL WEIGHT: 11 tons 15 cwt. 1 qr. 7 lbs.						

FOOD AND DRUGS

Compositional Standard and Quality

Two hundred and fourteen samples of food and drugs were sent to the Public Analyst during the year, as shown in Table No. 8.

The unsatisfactory samples are listed in Table No. 9.

The sample of vinegar for which an adverse report was given followed a complaint that flies had been found in a similar bottle purchased from the same shop. It was found that some of the bottles in store at the shop had small waxed card discs under the stoppers, which had at some stage been inadvertently omitted or removed allowing the ingress of small flies. No case of gross or deliberate fraud in relation to sale of foodstuffs was found and this type of contravention would seem to be largely a thing of the past. Considerable discussions took place with the various trade interests regarding labelling of certain foodstuffs especially in relation to 'non alcoholic ginger punch' which the Public Analyst reported was a contradiction of terms, and in regard to the labelling of chocolate bars depicting pictorially, ingredients which were not actually embodied in the food stuffs and were considered by the Public Analyst to be misleading labels.

None of the thirty-six samples of spirits was found to be sub-standard, these samples being examined for an estimation of degrees of proof spirit.

Of the fifty-two samples of ice-cream examined in the departmental laboratory, one fell short of the 5% statutory minimum fat content, but subsequent samples taken from the same manufacturer were found to be satisfactory. With the virtual disappearance of the back-kitchen type of ice-cream manufacturer, and the bulk of the sales of this commodity resting in the hands of large and reputable firms, little trouble is now experienced with ice-cream. One formal sample of dairy ice-cream sent to the Public Analyst was certified to contain non-milk fat in contravention of the Regulations.

In accordance with established policy the milks arriving at the two local pasteurising plants were sampled at the point of delivery and one hundred and forty-nine such samples were examined in the departmental laboratory during the year for fat and non-fatty solid content.

The average composition of these milks during the year was:-

Channel Island Milk	4.40%	Fat
	9.04%	Non Fatty Solids
Other Milks	3.87%	Fat
	8.82%	Non Fatty Solids

These figures compare satisfactorily with the national average. In no case was added water found although there were several instances where milk was found to be slightly below standard in fat or non-fat solids; usually the average of the whole consignment of churns was satisfactory. The method of delivery of churns of milk from the farms to the dairies in Slough has been unchanged for many years although in other areas there is a trend towards the bulk collection scheme promoted by the Milk Marketing Board. Over 100 producers at the present time send milk in churns to Slough and a considerable quantity also arrives by tanker from other parts of the country.

Complaints Relating to Food

Of the fifty complaints received in the department during the year, twelve related to bread and thirteen to milk. In the case of bread the majority of complaints arose because of the presence of foreign bodies, some of them less innocuous than others; a strand of hessian in the crust; poppy seeds such as are used for decoration of the crust of certain special types of loaf found in the crumb of an ordinary loaf. There was also a complaint regarding the presence of rodent excreta in a loaf of this, on examination by the Public Analyst, proved to be rained crust. In any case of doubt regarding the nature of a foreign body the specimen is sent to the Public Analyst for examination.

The complaints relating to milk were concerned with varying degrees of dirty bottles, often caused by the neglect of customers. It is perhaps unfortunate that the milk bottle is such a convenient and cheap form of storing household liquids, such as paraffin, and it is not unknown for stocks of old bottles to be allowed to accumulate in odd corners of gardens and premises where they acquire layers of filth which are subsequently difficult or impossible to remove. The contents of some of the bottles brought to the department included cement, a spoon, a beetle, a biscuit wrapper, a fly and most disturbing of all, a small rat.

It is known that there are occasions where food is sold in an unsatisfactory state but where no complaint is made to the department. Many people who do complain wish nothing more

than to bring our attention to the matter and decline to give evidence in any legal proceedings if required to do so.

Legal proceedings were instituted in four cases during the year following complaints relating to food. In two of the cases proceedings were instituted under the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960 one of them following a complaint regarding cake purchased from a shop and partly eaten by a rodent and the other following a complaint of rancid chocolate bars purchased from a cafe. In each case the defendant was fined £100. The sale of milk in a dirty bottle resulted in a fine of £100 and the sale of a bar of nut confectionery containing a matchstick resulted in a fine of £25.

TABLE NO. 8

Summary of Food and Drugs Samples Submitted to the Public Analyst

FOODS	PROCURED		ADULTERATED	
	Formal	Informal	Formal	Informal
Almonds, ground	1			
Angelica, glaze	1			
Beefcurry with rice	1			
Beef suet	2			
Beetroot in vinegar	1			
Biscuits	1			
Borax	1			
Bread	1	2		2
Butter	3			
Cake	8	1		1
Cake icing mix	2			
Cake mix	1			
Casserole, steak	1			
Cereal flakes, dehydrated ...	1			
Cheese	2			
Cherries, glaze	2			
Christmas pudding	1			
Cinnamon, ground	1			
Coconut, desiccated	2			
Coffee	3			
Coffee and Chicory Essence ...	1			
Corn, dressed	1			
Cream	5			
Cream, imitation	1			
Cream of lanolin	1			
Starch powder	1			
Flipping	2			
Fish	5			
Four	5			
Fruit, dried	4			
Fruit filling	1			
Fruit, tinned	2			
Glycerine and Rose Water ...	1			
Golden Eye Ointment	1			
Gravy powder	1			
Groundnut oil	1			
Ham	2			
Horseradish	1			
Ice-cream	7		1	
Ice-cream powder	1			
Ice-cream lolly	1			

TABLE NO. 8 (cont'd)

Summary of Food and Drugs Samples Submitted to the Public Analy				
FOODS	PROCURED		ADULTERATED	
	Formal	Informal	Formal	Informal
Jelly	3			
Marzipan	2			
Meat, prepared	24			
Meat tenderizer	1			
Milk	1	1		1
Milk, evaporated	1			
Milk pudding	1			
Milk shake	1			
Mint, dried	1			
Oats, scotch	1			
Onion powder	1			
Farsley, dried	1			
Paste, fish and meat	2			
Pasties, cornish	1			
Pea flour	2			
Peas	2			
Peanuts, salted	1			
Peanut spread	1			
Peel, mixed	1			
Pepper	2			
Fineapple fritters	1			
Potato	3			
Potato salad	1			
Preserves	9			
Rice	3			
Salad cream	2			
Sauces and pickles	9			
Sausages	12			
Soft drinks	8		1	
Soup mix	1			
Stabilized wheat germ		1		
Steak pudding	2			
Sugar, brown	2			
Sugar confectionery	13		3	
Syrup, raspberry	1			
Tartar, cream of	1			
Vegetable juices	1			
Vinegar	6		1	
White petroleum jelly	2			
Zinc and castor oil B.P.	1			
TOTAL FOOD AND DRUGS	209	5	6	

TABLE NO. 9

Food and Drugs Samples reported to be not Genuine			
SAMPLE NO.	FOOD	ADULTERATION	ACTION TAKEN
7	Malt Vinegar	Contained small flies	Vendor and Manufacturers cautioned
8	Milk	Deficient in fat 15%	Supply kept under observation
7	Bread	Contained charred dough	No action
7	Cake	Sample nibbled by rodent	Summary proceedings under Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960
6	Non-alcoholic Ginger Punch	Description is a contradiction in terms	Manufacturers cautioned
3	Dairy Ice-Cream	Contained fat other than milk fat	Manufacturers cautioned
4	Chocolate (Rum and Butter Flavoured Cream)))))))))))
5	Chocolate (Wild Strawberry Flavoured Cream)	) ) Misleading label ) )	) ) Manufacturers cautioned))
6	Chocolate (Cherry Brandy Flavoured Cream)))))))))
	Bread	Contained cellulose material	Manufacturers cautioned

SECTION D

CLEAN AIR

This subject came very much before the public eye towards the end of the year when we experienced a period of smog in London and Thames Valley Area. Much press and television publicity was given to the working of the Clean Air Act, particularly with relation to Smoke Control Areas. It appears that some people object to the formation of smoke control areas because, although they reduce the amount of smoke in the atmosphere, they do nothing to reduce the amount of sulphur dioxide. This surely is a ridiculous argument. It implies that if there are two obnoxious impurities being discharged into the atmosphere it is better to do nothing and suffer both than to do away with one of the pollutants. The removal of smoke is relatively easy and far less costly than the removal of sulphur dioxide. By creating smoke control areas the amount of sulphur dioxide is reduced to a certain extent by the people who convert their coal burning grates to appliances using gas or electricity. Those burning smokeless fuels will tend to produce less sulphur dioxide than before owing to the greater efficiency of the modern grates.

Smoke Control Areas

Further progress was made during the year and by December there were three smoke control areas in operation at Langleigh. Details of these are shown in the map and in Table No. 10.

Some doubts as to the availability of adequate supplies of smokeless fuel have been expressed from time to time. It is still not realised by the general public that ordinary gas is generally intended to be the main solid smokeless fuel used. Grants are paid by the Council towards the cost of adapting grates so that coke may be burned efficiently. Coke is cheaper than the premium fuels and can be burned in approved open fires. The premium fuels are generally more difficult to obtain during the winter months but during a normal winter there should be adequate supplies of coke. If any person has difficulty burning coke in an approved fire the North Thames Gas Board are willing to send an expert to demonstrate the correct method of using this fuel.

There appears to be a certain amount of prejudice by the public generally against coke. The usual complaint is that there are excessive fumes given off into the room when it is being burned. This is a fallacy because coke is the residue from coal, after the smoky, tarry matter has been removed at the gas works. Coke, therefore, cannot give off more sulphur fumes than the coal from which it was made; in fact the sulphur content remains the same.

The response of the public generally has been good and it is significant that no objections were made to the Minister of Housing and Local Government in respect of the making of the three Smoke Control Orders now in operation.

Every dwelling house, commercial and industrial building is visited before a smoke control order is made and advice regarding any necessary adaptation to heating appliances is given. An inspection of every adaptation made in dwelling houses is carried out before a grant is paid.

The occupier of every house is presented with a booklet entitled "Smoke is your Enemy", this being an explanatory booklet regarding the formation of Smoke Control Areas. From time to time areas are visited by Mobile Exhibitions from the Local Utilisation Council, the Solid Smokeless Fuels Federation and the North Thames Gas Board. These Mobile Exhibitions tour the area and are equipped with modern appliances and manned by technical personnel who are able to advise on the selection of appliances and authorised fuels.

Measuring Air Pollution

Several different types of air pollution recording apparatus have been in continuous use in the Borough since May 1957. In October 1961 Slough became one of a hundred selected towns throughout the country to take part in a National Survey of air pollution recording, using five smoke filter and volumetric type of apparatus. These instruments were set up at the following positions:-

1. Horsemoor Green School, Common Road,
Langley (a smoke control area)
2. Pest Infestation Laboratory,
London Road (a lightly populated area)
3. Shed at rear of 34, Salisbury
Avenue (a densely populated area)
4. North Thames Gas Board Showrooms,
High Street (a commercial area)
5. Coopers Mechanical Joints,
Liverpool Road (an industrial area)

These stations are visited daily excluding Sundays. The measuring air pollution instruments consist of the following:-

Three British Standard Deposit Gauges stationed as follows:-

Girls High School, Twinches Lane
Baylis Court School, Oatlands Drive
Rochfords Nurseries, Uxbridge Road

Seven Lead Peroxide Instruments are stationed at:-

Boys' Grammar School, Lascelles Road
Langley Grammar School, Trelawney Avenue
Southern Forge Limited, Meadfield Road
The Lea Infants School, Grasmere Avenue
Baylis Court School, Oatlands Drive
Haymill Secondary Modern School, Windsor Lane
Sewage Works, Cippenham

The results of all the recording instruments are forwarded each month to the Atmospheric Pollution Section of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research and are published later in their Bulletin.

Industrial

The provisions regarding the emission of dark and black smoke from industrial chimneys are contained in Sections 1 and 2 of the Clean Air Act 1956. Under Section 1 of the Act the Dark Smoke (Permitted Periods) Regulations 1958 were made dealing with the emissions from the chimneys of buildings and certain maximum periods are laid down for the emission of dark and black smoke.

Section 10 of the Clean Air Act enables the Local Authority to control the height of industrial chimneys, in so far as they can reject plans submitted in accordance with Building Byelaws, unless they are satisfied that the chimney height is sufficient to allow for the reasonable disposal of smoke, grit, dust and gases so as not to be prejudicial to health or a nuisance. In assessing heights of new chimneys consideration must be given to the following four points:-

- (a) the purpose of the chimney,
- (b) the position and description of buildings nearby,
- (c) the levels of the neighbouring ground and
- (d) any other matters requiring consideration in the circumstances.

Under item (d) the amount of sulphur dioxide to be emitted from the chimney is calculated and this is taken into account when assessing the minimum height; this is particularly important when oil-fired boilers are being installed and the number of oil-fired boilers is increasing. Such plant is quite satisfactory provided it is properly maintained and operated and the chimney is of sufficient height to allow for the disposal of the gases into the upper atmosphere.

In this connection a close liaison has been maintained with the Borough Engineer's Chief Building Inspector during the year.

Prior Approval

The Slough Borough Council operates a scheme for "Prior Approval" in accordance with the provisions of Section 3 of the Clean Air Act 1956. Under this scheme firms intending to install new furnaces can submit details to the Council for approval regarding the ability of the plant to operate smokelessly. Under this section it is required that all new furnaces shall be, so far as is practicable, smokeless in operation. Notice of intention to install a new furnace must be given to the local authority. The Prior Approval scheme, however, is voluntary but a large proportion of firms intending to install new furnaces take advantage of it since it is a means of safeguarding their interests at no extra expense to themselves. During the year 11 applications for Prior Approval were received and granted in respect of new furnaces within the Borough.

Administration and Statistics

Re-organisation has been effected so as to bring all matters relating to the Clean Air Act including Smoke Control and the recording of atmospheric pollution under a separate section of administration. The day-to-day control of this section is almost wholly the function of a Public Health Inspector specialising in this work together with a Technical Assistant who is largely responsible for house-to-house investigations in smoke control areas.

The work of the Department in relation to Clean Air is summarised as follows:-

Visits to Domestic Premises regarding smoke control	2,731
Visits to Industrial Premises	143
Visits re Prior Approval	30
No. of smoke observations	269
No. of complaints re smoke etc.	23
Visits in connection with measurement of air pollution	406

Your Chairman and I represent the Corporation on the National Society for Clean Air and the Home Counties Clean Air Advisory Committee. The Society's Annual Conference at Harrogate was attended by Councillor E. Lewis and the Public Health Inspector (Special Duties Smoke Control).

TABLE NO. 10

BOROUGH OF SLOUGH - SMOKE CONTROL AREAS

SMOKE CONTROL ORDER NO.	CLASSES OF BUILDINGS (APPROX. NOS. AT END OF 1962)				AREA IN ACRES	DATE ORDER MADE	DATE ORDER CONFIRMED	DATE ORDER IN OPERATION
	DOMESTIC	COMMERCIAL	INDUSTRIAL	OTHERS				
1	974	20	8	2	422	27. 2. 61	15. 5. 61	1st Dec. 1961
2	2, 356	26	NIL	7	295	14. 11. 61	21. 2. 62	1st Sept. 1962
3	499	43	14	5	173	13. 2. 62	23. 5. 62	1st Dec. 1962

BOROUGH OF SLOUGH

TRADING ESTATE



SECTION E

FACTORIES, WORKPLACES AND SHOPS

Factories

The number of factories in the Corporation's register the year 1962 was 521. This figure includes large establishments employing several hundred persons and small premises in which one or two persons are employed. Over half of these factories are situated on the Slough Trading Estate where there is a tendency to demolish older buildings which have served their purpose to build new blocks of factories on available ground. A programme of expansion is taking place throughout the estate including the modernisation and enlargement of some existing factories, in addition to the erection of new buildings.

Close liaison exists between the department and H.M. Inspector of Factories.

All but 34 are factories where mechanical power is used; therefore, under the Factories Act, 1937, are the concern of local authority only in respect of the adequacy, arrangement and maintenance of the sanitary accommodation. For all other premises they are controlled by H.M. Inspector of Factories.

With regard to the "non-power" factories, the Council is the enforcing authority under the Factories Act in respect of cleanliness, overcrowding, temperature, ventilation and sanitary accommodation.

Requirements in respect of means of escape in case of fire are now dealt with by the County Fire Brigade under the Factories Act, 1959.

Statistical information required each year by the Ministry of Labour and National Service is given in Tables 11 and 12.

362 inspections of factories were made during 1962 at which where defects under the Factories Act and Sanitary Accommodation Regulations were observed the persons concerned were required to carry out any necessary works to ensure that the requirements of the Act or Regulations were fulfilled.

Several of these factories are food premises within the meaning of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955 and the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960, and are therefore inspected in connection with the requirements of that Act and the Regulations. I am pleased to report that a satisfactory standard was found to be maintained.

Plans deposited with the Borough Engineer for approval under Planning and Building Byelaws are examined by officers of the Department in order to check upon and to consider proposals concerning the various aspects of the Department's activities.

From time to time 'public health' and 'noise' nuisances are the subjects of investigation. Alleged offences under the Clean Air Act, 1956, are also investigated. I am pleased to be able to report that factory managements are generally willing to fulfil their obligations under the numerous Acts and Regulations administered by the Department, to modernise their boiler equipment; to improve their facilities for disposal of factory waste, food hygiene, etc.

TABLE NO. 11

INSPECTION OF FACTORIES				
PREMISES	NUMBER OF REGISTER	NUMBER OF		
		INSPECTIONS	WRITTEN NOTICES	OCCUP PROSEC
1 Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by the Local Authority.	25	11	NIL	N
2 Factories not included in 1 in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	487	344	15	N
3 Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises).	9	7	1	N
TOTAL	521	362	16	N

TABLE NO. 12

IMPROVEMENTS EFFECTED AT FACTORIES					
PARTICULARS	NUMBER OF CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND				NO. CASES WHICH PROSECUTION WERE INSTITUTED
	FND. REMEDIED		REFERRED		
			TO H.M. INSPECTOR	BY H.M. INSPECTOR	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	1	-	-
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)					
(a) insufficient	1	2	1	-	-
(b) unsuitable or defective	11	14	-	4	-
(c) not separate for sexes	1	-	-	-	-
Other offences against Act (not including offences relating to Outworkers.	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	13	16	2	4	-

Outworkers

Those firms employing persons to carry out work outside their factory premises are required by the Factories Act, 1937, to furnish the Local Authority during February and August each year with lists giving the names and addresses of all such "outworkers". This work is usually carried out in their homes which are subjected to inspection by your officers for the purpose of ensuring that the conditions are satisfactory. This is concerned mainly with the making and alteration of wearing apparel.

Lists in respect of 88 outworkers were forwarded to other local authorities and lists were received from other local authorities in respect of some 29 outworkers in Slough.

Drinking Water

In the case of a factory where drinking water is supplied from a deep well a certificate of approval was granted in pursuance of Section 41 of the Factories Act, 1937. This water is sampled and found to be suitable for that purpose.

Shops Act, 1950, and Young Persons Employment Act, 1938

The provisions of these Acts were generally found to be well observed and it is noticeable that business managements are eager to ascertain their obligations under the Act before taking any action, rather than to contravene the Regulations.

The failure of the Shops Bill of 1956 to reach the Statute Book following the Report of the Gowers Committee has been the subject of much concern, and I am able to report that the new Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Bill, which should considerably improve the conditions under which many thousands of persons are employed has completed its passage through the House of Commons and the House of Lords and is awaiting certain amendments before receiving the Royal Assent.

This Act will, no doubt, impose added responsibilities on your officers but with genuine satisfaction that at last a reasonable standard can be applied to shops and offices to bring them in line with modern developments and modern thinking.

Workplaces

Certain premises which are neither factories nor shops are termed workplaces. In effect they are one-man workshops but they are subject to inspection for purposes of cleanliness, overcrowding, ventilation and sanitary accommodation under the Public Health Act, 1936. Numerous visits were made by your officers to such premises during the year.

Places of Entertainment

Visits of inspection were made to premises used for the purpose of public entertainment and conditions were found to be generally satisfactory.

Offices

As previously mentioned, conditions relating to overcrowding, heating and ventilation and sanitary accommodation in offices, which in the past have been considered 'sub-standard' should be considerably improved, when the new Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Bill becomes law. Unlike previous legislation on this subject, this Bill has met with much more support during its passage through Parliament than its predecessor.

SECTION F

PEST CONTROL AND DISINFECTION

The Slough Borough Council is responsible for carrying out the provisions of the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949. The Pest Control section, consisting of a Pest Control Officer and five manual assistants, operates in close liaison with the District Public Health Inspectors and carries out the necessary work.

The rodent control service is provided free to domestic premises but a charge is made for work done on all business premises, some of which are serviced by annual agreement.

Pests other than rats and mice are dealt with as an occasion arises on a chargeable basis.

There is no doubt that many occupiers treat infestations themselves and while some of these treatments may be thorough the majority could be dealt with more effectively by the pest control section.

Many properties are surveyed over and above those notified to the Department and a considerable proportion are found to be infested. The public is still not as conscious as they should be that rats and mice rely to a great extent on man-made harbourages and man-provided food for a comfortable existence. If everybody, individually, made a deliberate effort to reduce such harbourages and food supplies treatment of these pests would be made easier and their eventual eradication brought a step nearer.

It cannot but concern anyone connected with this work that the accent is, at the moment, on rodent control and not eradication.

Rodent Control during 1962

The District Public Health Inspectors and the Pest Control Officer during the course of their duties investigated 680 infestations which were subsequently treated.

The Pest Control Officer made 3,735 visits to premises in connection with surveys, giving advice to owners and occupiers about rat and mouse proofing of business premises and private houses, and supervising the work of the rodent operators.

There were 482 notifications of rat infestation and 103 notifications of mouse infestation.

Rat control in sewers in Slough has not presented any problem in recent years. Test baiting of a proportion of manholes on the system has shown no increase in infestation.

Table No. 13 gives a summary of the rodent operators' work during 1962.

Annual Agreement Scheme

The continued support for the Council's Annual Agreement Scheme shows that occupiers of industrial and business premises appreciate the advantages of regular visits to their properties and of being able to call immediately on the services of the Department should any infestation occur.

During 1962, 110 premises were serviced under the Council's scheme and the total income from these agreements amounted to £1,577.

Workable Area Committee

The South Bucks and East Berks Workable Area Committee met twice during the year. Your Chairman and I are representatives of the Borough Council.

Other Pests

A few complaints of pests other than rodents were received and treatments were carried out as follows:-

<i>Wasps</i>	<i>Flies</i>	<i>Beetles</i>	<i>Other Pests</i>
15	3	2	40

Infestation and Disinfection

Bedding and other articles were disinfected and disinfested by the team.

A number of premises and articles were also disinfected by sealing the rooms and by using a formaldehyde fumigant.

The following work was supervised by the Pest Control Officer during the year.

Premises disinfected	-	18
Premises disinfested	-	2

In addition, bedding and articles of clothing from some premises associated with infection and for vermin were destroyed under the supervision of the Pest Control Officer.

TABLE NO. 13

Rodent Infestation Control (Rodent Operators)

	PRIVATE DWELLINGS	BUSINESS PREMISES		REFUSE DESTRUCTOR TIPS DUMPS ETC.	PARKS HEDGES DITCHES ETC.	OTHER COUNCIL PROPERTIES	TOTALS
		ANNUAL AGREEMENT SCHEME	SHORT TERM ACTION				
1. Investigations made ...	2,354	1,377	72	54	139	231	4,027
2. Treatments carried out by the Corporation ...	1,568	625	58	32	33	74	2,390
3. Poison baits laid ...	8,286	7,874	501	497	853	1,246	19,257
4. Poison baits taken ...	5,439	2,084	282	374	526	691	9,396
5. No. of visits made ...	7,890	1,565	145	160	184	390	10,334

SECTION G

MISCELLANEOUS

Noise

Noise pollution has been described as a new urban disaster of the 20th Century, which now ranks with the traditional social evils - bad housing, dirt and atmospheric pollution. A long ago Dryden said: 'Common quiet is all mankind's concern.'

The Minister of Science has received the final report of the Committee on noise. This committee, which was set up three years ago under the Chairmanship of Sir Alan Wilson has been examining the nature, sources and effects of the problem of noise. The report is expected to be published as a White Paper and it is thought that it will recommend maximum acceptable levels of external noise in urban areas for different types of buildings and this may lead to a new approach in the design and layout of houses, shops, offices, etc.

The Noise Abatement Act has not led to any solution of noise problems and it is thought that it will not be effective until the law fixes noise levels. There are many variables and difficulties in defining an acceptable level; the Decibel reading alone means very little. The Act may not have contributed a great deal to the overall reduction of noise but there has been a change of attitude towards noise generally. The government have promised that after studying the findings of the Wilson Committee, measures to prevent undue noise in schools and offices will be introduced.

Over-loud radio sets, steel bands, engineering equipment, aircraft, car doors and horns, pneumatic drills, traffic noise etc., are some examples in a tremendous range of contributors to noise in our quick-moving modern life.

It is understood that there will soon be on the market an almost silent or muffled pneumatic road drill but at the moment it appears, although research continues, that there is no hope of any real suppression in the noise from jet aircraft.

The Noise Abatement Society, of which the Slough Borough Council is a member, continues in its pioneering work and is doing yeoman service in encouraging public reaction against noise.

During the year 55 visits were made in connection with alleged noise and associated complaints. Upon investigation none was found to constitute a statutory nuisance.

Water Supply

In 1962 some 79 visits were made in connection with water supplies and swimming bath waters, and the following samples were procured:-

Domestic Water Supplies

Wells	10
-------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

Swimming Bath Waters

Slough Community Centre	...	...	...	36
Slough Lido	...	...	...	19
Licensed Victuallers' School	...	...	...	10
St. Bernard's Convent	...	...	...	3
Long Close School	...	...	...	3
Thomas Gray School	...	...	...	3
Langley County Secondary School	...	...	...	6

Hairdressers

The Public Health aspects of hairdressing are important during 1962 all such establishments were subjected to routine inspections by the District Public Health Inspectors.

At the end of the year there were 62 premises registered for the carrying on of the business of hairdresser and/or barber under Section 82 of the Buckinghamshire County Council Byelaws 1957, which was adopted by the Borough Council in 1959. The Council also made Byelaws for the securing of cleanliness of premises, instruments, towels, materials and equipment together with the cleanliness of persons employed on the premises in regard to both themselves and their clothing. Satisfactorily good standards were found at these premises.

Offensive Trades

During the year the Council granted the necessary consent in the case of two rag and bone dealers and a soap boiler who are now the only offensive trades scheduled under the Public Health Act, 1936, which operate within the Borough.

Inspections throughout the year showed that these premises were being operated satisfactorily and without nuisance.

Drainage

One hundred and twenty-seven complaints were received during 1962 concerning defective or choked drainage and sanitary fittings. The District Inspectors made some 368 visits for the purpose of investigating, testing and supervising

remedial works in progress. At several premises drainage systems were re-constructed and other sanitary improvements were effected at 43 premises. Further progress was made with the abolition of cesspools during the year.

Licensing of Petroleum Storage

The Petroleum (Regulation) Acts, 1928 and 1936 make the storage of petroleum spirit and mixtures the subject of licence by the local authority which may attach such conditions as it thinks fit. These conditions have become standardised and, with certain slight variations to suit local circumstances, follow codes of practice which are advised by the Home Office.

The supervision of premises where petroleum is stored either for sale at filling stations or for use in industry, involved during 1962, 510 inspections by your technical officer. Constant inspection was necessary in order to ensure that the conditions attached to the licences granted by the Council were being observed. In addition, the Southern Electricity Board examined on behalf of the Corporation, the electrical equipment associated with new pumps, etc., installed during the year.

Within the Borough of Slough at the end of 1962, 183 premises were licensed for the storage of 691,666 gallons of petroleum spirit and petroleum mixtures and 4 premises for the storage of 2,382 lb. of carbide of calcium. These very considerable quantities stored at so many different points within the Borough constitute an extra-ordinary fire risk and consequently it is essential that the controlling Act and its many regulations are strictly enforced.

The ready assistance by Officers of the Buckinghamshire Fire Service on problems which may arise is most appreciated.

The storage of any inflammable material must always be regarded as a potential hazard. Petroleum and its associated products, in themselves indeed very complex, are only part of the total amount of inflammable materials which are widely stored and used throughout industry today. Substances other than petroleum products, however inflammable or dangerous, are not subject to any control by the Local Authority.

Hackney Carriages

The legislation under which the Slough Borough Council exercise their control of hackney carriages is the Town Police Clauses Act of 1847 together with the Byelaws made thereunder.

Although the service is operated and organised by private companies and persons, it is nevertheless a service which must serve the public effectively and satisfactorily and it is the Council's object to see that this part of the public transport system is properly controlled.

The Borough Council have for many years granted a maximum of 30 hackney carriage licences, considered adequate in meeting the needs of the district. After full consideration, having in mind the increasing population of the Borough, the Council decided, in 1962, to increase the number of licences to 35.

Before granting these licences, each vehicle was subjected to the usual detailed examination and certified as being roadworthy by the Consulting Engineers who were appointed and paid by the Corporation. This arrangement of annual inspections of hackney carriages, begun some years ago, has operated to great advantage in ensuring that licences were granted only in respect of vehicles which were mechanically fit and safe for public service. Hackney carriage proprietors tend to make frequent changes in order to keep their vehicles up to date.

Licences were granted in respect of 37 hackney carriage drivers.

As a measure of control designed to safeguard the public each driver must satisfy the Council as to his medical fitness to drive a hackney carriage.

262 visits were made in 1962 by the District Public Health inspectors in connection with licensing, for the purpose of examination of vehicles on the ranks, for cleanliness, and generally to check on the observance of the Byelaws. A few complaints were received alleging contraventions of the Byelaws but upon investigation none was deemed to be of any substance.

Licensing of Game Dealers

Seven licences were granted by the Corporation authorising dealers to buy and sell game.

Registries for Female Domestic Servants

Although there are still three Female Domestic Servants' agencies registered in the Borough, registration is a token only and the amount of business carried out in domestic servants registration is apparently negligible.

Registration of Dealers in Old Metal

The same five premises are registered under the Public Health Amendment Act, 1907, four of them belonging to the one firm. Several visits were made for the purpose of checking that the necessary requirements were being observed.

Heating Appliances (Fireguards) Regulations, 1953

Routine visits were made to premises for the purpose of these regulations.

All new heating appliances seen were fitted with satisfactory guards. No contraventions of the Regulations were noted.